

1891.

QUEENSLAND.

REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL ON THE RETURNS OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVE STOCK FOR THE YEAR 1890.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command.

TO THE HONOURABLE HORACE TOZER, ESQUIRE, COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,—I have the honour to lay before you my usual annual report on the live stock and agricultural statistics of the Colony for 1890, together with the usual appendix. I regret that I have been unable to do this at an earlier date, as the collection of the statistics this year has been very much retarded by the recent disturbance in the Central district, which occupied the attention of the police for a considerable time, so that the last of the returns only reached me on the 23rd July.

In consequence of the very favourable season experienced last year a large accession to the pastoral wealth of Queensland might naturally have been anticipated, nor are the actual results disappointing, as a very large increase has taken place in all descriptions of stock except horses, the increase in that kind of stock having been scarcely up to the average. The increase of horned cattle and sheep were nearly one-sixth and one-quarter respectively. In addition to the increase exhibited in horned cattle, the returns show the number exported from the Colony exceeded those imported by nearly half a million. The actual number was 491,260, being more than double the number exported during any year since 1881. No doubt the cattle so exported mainly consisted of bullocks to supply the southern meat market, and their withdrawal will therefore not affect the productive part of our herds.

The number of sheep now in the Colony—namely, 18,000,000, should have a very marked effect on the wool production at the shearing now approaching; the increase, 3,500,000, is greater numerically than in any preceding year except 1882, at which time the increase over that of the preceding year approximated to 3,750,000. The centesimal proportion of increase, however, both in the years 1882 and in 1887, exceeded that shown by the returns of 1890. The clip of wool of the present season is also said to be the heaviest and best known for many years.

Horses only show a slight advance in number, amounting to not quite 4 per cent. in excess of those returned in 1889.

In my report for 1889 I remarked that both horses and pigs had considerably increased during the two previous years, and that if such a rate of increase continued some fresh means of utilisation would have to be found. In the case of horses this could only be secured by sales in a foreign market. Unfortunately, at present, no foreign market has been made available; consequently, breeders finding such a description of stock a positive drug in the home market have given up operations to some extent for the present, so that the number of horses is not likely to be largely increased in future until other fields of distribution become more accessible. Another difficulty horse-breeders have had to contend against of late years is the breaking out of a disease called "mange." This disease disfigured the animals extremely, and was most difficult to deal with even with broken-in stock, while with unbroken stock it was impossible. Great difference of opinion exists amongst scientists as to the origin and nature of the disease, some believing that it is a form of Psoriasis, constitutional and neither contagious nor infectious while others as stoutly maintain that it is a parasitic disease, and profess to have discovered the fungus (trichophyton) by which it is caused. While these gentlemen are arguing the matter the fact remains that the disease does not, as a rule, yield to treatment, and horses are rendered very unsightly and unmarketable from the loss of hair, in patches mostly over the back and shoulder, and the mane and tail

almost

almost destroyed. The disease was virulent in 1888, appeared to be dying out in 1889, but was again greatly complained of by horse owners during 1890 in all parts of the Colony, especially in the South. At Dalby, Condamine, Gatton, Logan, and Blackall, it appears to have been particularly severe, whilst complaints were also received from Banana, Bundaberg, Etheridge, Hughenden, Mackay, Mitchell, Normanby, and Winton. Although I believe that this disease is not often fatal, there seems to be a general opinion that, whilst it rendered the animal quite unmarketable, in severe cases it left a marked effect upon the animal's constitution.

It is a matter for regret that no real specific has yet been discovered for this disease, although the matter has been very earnestly considered by scientists and others.

Another disease from which a good many horses are reported to have died in the Diamantina Police District is known as the Birdsville horse disease. Considerable losses amongst foals during 1890 are also reported as being caused by ticks, particularly in the neighbourhood of Highfields.

It is evident from the returns that pigs are being raised in this colony in greatly increased numbers during the last few years. In 1888 there were only a little over 68,000 pigs in the Colony, while the returns of 1890 show, as before stated, that there are now nearly 97,000. The centesimal increase in 1889 over 1888 was 17·01, and again in 1890 the centesimal increase over 1889 was 19·95, or say, in round numbers, 20 per cent. There can be no doubt that the cause of this increased attention to the breeding of pigs in the last two years is largely owing to care taken by the Department of Agriculture to instruct farmers as to the best manner of curing bacon, and also to the fact (so far as the Southern portion of the Colony is concerned) that bacon-curing establishments are now in existence where farmers obtain a good and certain market for their pigs. If this state of things continues, climate and soil of Queensland being suitable for the production of maize, pumpkins, and sweet potatoes in profusion, the limit to pig rearing is not easily measured, and the industry may yet build up for Queensland a market like Chicago, it being quite possible for at least half the year to cure and turn out bacon in this Colony equal to any other place in Australia. This noted, it depends much whether the pioneers in the business now carried on here will continue to produce a good article so as to secure the local market, and thereby reap the benefit of the protection afforded to them by the increased duty levied on the imported article under "*The Customs Act of 1888*." In another part of this report I have reverted to that subject, in order to show the utility of this industry in profitably disposing of superabundant crops of maize, when the price of that cereal is very low. I also give some interesting American statistics on the subject.

A comparison as to the position of the Colony with regard to the number of live stock depastured therein at the end of the years 1889 and 1890, together with the improvement resulting from the operations of the latter year, can be deduced from the following statement:—

A.

Year.	Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1889	352,364	4,872,416	14,470,095	80,730
1890	365,812	5,558,264	18,007,234	96,836
Numerical Increase in 1890	13,448	685,848	3,537,139	16,106
Centesimal Increase in 1890	3·82	14·08	24·44	19·95

Although rearing horned cattle was so numerically successful during 1890, yet they do not appear to have been exempt from disease. Pleuro-pneumonia was reported as severe at Cape River, Condamine, Dalby, Gladstone, Goondiwindi, and Windorah. It was also noticeable at Banana, Bowen, Caboolture, Clermont, Crow's Nest, Mitchell, Nanango, and Rockhampton. Blackleg attacked calves at Esk, Nanango, Crow's Nest, and Tiaro, while tuberculosis and actinomycosis are reported from many districts, and more rigid Government supervision is in some cases suggested by graziers, in the returns.

In view of the fact that numbers of cattle and sheep enter and leave Queensland across the Southern border, a table is given showing the exports of live stock borderwise for the past ten years:—

B.

Year.	Horned Cattle.		Sheep.	
	Inwards.	Outwards.	Inwards.	Outwards.
1881	32,212	48,537	621,493	95,050
1882	29,404	39,164	1,645,657	101,384
1883	12,180	85,481	677,664	353,365
1884	11,135	78,406	556,558	434,893
1885	12,570	126,666	462,740	524,050
1886	1,852	118,827	672,903	175,845
1887	1,752	202,283	580,885	118,570
1888	1,111	188,748	234,167	248,804
1889	1,867	175,117	222,369	311,583
1890	3,684	494,944	386,625	472,282

This table cannot be without interest to the pastoralist, as it shows that, although during the years referred to in the table large numbers of horned cattle have left this Colony in excess of the imports, no doubt mostly to supply the shambles of our southern neighbours, yet the exports for the year 1890 are pre-eminent. In that year no less than 491,260 cattle crossed the border on the way to the south in excess of those imported, being more than double the number of the cattle sent southward during any year during the deceniad. With respect to sheep it will be seen from the same table that prior to 1888 Queensland received considerable additions to her flocks from New South Wales and South Australia, but during the past three years the exchange has been slightly the other way.

It is evident that in seasons when seasonable rain falls, and the conditions are favourable to pasturage, our flocks and herds increase most rapidly. It is therefore to be hoped that increased efforts may be made to obtain supplies of artesian water for irrigation and stock purposes, so that dependence may not in future have to be placed upon rainy seasons for supplies of grass and water, and thus to a certain extent prevent the almost wholesale losses in stock hitherto resulted from the severe droughts. I think graziers have lately learned a severe lesson, so that they are not likely to relax their efforts to obtain a certain supply of water, which will not only supply stock requirements but will enable them to combine a certain measure of agriculture with pastoral pursuits, thus rendering it less necessary for them to depend upon indigenous fodder for the subsistence of their stock. The usual tables showing the number of cattle and sheep in the several police districts for 1889 and 1890 in each of the financial divisions of the Colony will be found in the appendix hereto, Tables II., III., and IV. A summary of these is given below, from which a comparison of the total number of cattle and sheep in each division and the numerical and centesimal increase of stock therein can be at once ascertained:—

C.

Division.	Year.	Cattle.	Sheep.
NORTHERN	1889	1,531,482	1,036,989
	1890	1,696,369	1,270,440
	Numerical Increase in 1890	164,887	233,451
	Centesimal Increase in 1890	10·76	22·51
CENTRAL	1889	1,586,956	7,053,041
	1890	1,896,461	8,999,479
	Numerical Increase in 1890	309,505	1,946,438
	Centesimal Increase in 1890	19·57	27·60
SOUTHERN	1889	1,753,978	6,380,065
	1890	1,965,434	7,737,315
	Numerical Increase in 1890	211,456	1,357,250
	Centesimal Increase in 1890	12·06	21·27

It will be observed from this table that the Central division contributed the lion's share of the increase in cattle and sheep both numerically and centesimally. The increase in the Southern division was next in importance both with respect to cattle and sheep, although in the centesimal increase in sheep the Northern division has slightly the advantage.

To account for the relatively smaller increase in the Southern division, compared with the Central division, it is probable that the Southern division, being nearest the border, contributed a larger share to the cattle exports, and for similar reasons feels most the falling off in past years of the imports of sheep already referred to. The Southern portions of the Colony, moreover, suffered somewhat severe losses in sheep from the floods in the early part of the year.

From Table II. in the appendix, which relates to cattle and sheep in the Southern division, it will be noticed that the police districts of Thargomindah with 34,744, Taroom with 25,465, Charleville with 24,269, Cunnamulla with 13,866, Mitchell with 12,307, and Dalby with 11,233, contribute the most important increases in the number of horned cattle during 1890; while Adavale shows the largest decrease—viz., 9,857. The other decreases of any moment occurred in Tenningering 8,779, Moonie 5,917, Eidsvold 5,885, and Gayndah 5,281; the Burnett area therefore contributing half of the decrease shown in cattle in the Southern division. In sheep the largest increases are found in Cunnamulla 192,621, Charleville 184,163, Thargomindah 173,921, Toowoomba 125,061, and Bollon 108,884; whilst the largest decreases in the number of sheep, though such decreases are not of much importance, will be found in Normanby 12,844, Gympie 11,872, Warwick 11,512, and Condamine 10,461.

If reference be made to Table III., showing the number of cattle and sheep in the Central division, will be found that a still more satisfactory state of things is disclosed, practically only two districts show decreases in sheep, while in the whole division the respectable net increase amounts to no less than 1,946,438. The districts which contributed to this important increase are Barcardine 498,944, Muttaborra 427,028, Arrillalah 331,943, Isisford 271,714, Winton 209,352, and Windorah 142,859. Turning to horned cattle it will be seen that in 1890 in every district an increase is apparent, of which the most important are Windorah with 54,275, Gladstone with 49,982, and Banana with 42,414.

Table IV. in the appendix contains a return of cattle and sheep in the Northern division, analysing which it will be seen that the largest decrease in the number of cattle appears in the Burke district, viz: 18,290, and in Bowen 7,655. Decreases have also taken place in the three mining districts of Croydon, Palmer, and Ravenswood. In the former there was a large increase in 1889 over the figures for 1888, doubtless resulting from the sudden demand for meat caused by the number of persons then living in that district, the falling off in population since then causing no doubt a reduction in the number of cattle kept in the district. Increases in cattle of the most importance will be found to have occurred in the following districts in the order named:—Norman, Townsville, Cape River, Cloncurry, Hughenden, Somerset, and Cooke. Of these Somerset is the most remarkable, jumping from 1,518 in 1889, to 17,317 in 1890, possibly caused by new country just taken up and stocked on some of the most Northern rivers. The total increase of horned cattle in the division amounted to 164,887.

Sheep in this division appear still to be principally confined to the Gulf waters. A large increase is shown in Hughenden, 170,648; in Cloncurry, 56,662; and smaller ones in Norman and Camooweal. The increases in other districts in the division are not worth noting. The only decrease in sheep in the division of any importance is that shown in Burke, 15,000; and that can be explained, because it resulted from the number of sheep on one station, hitherto thought to be in that district and so included therein in 1889, having been transferred to an adjoining district where from more perfect information it was found to be situated.

In my last report I referred to an effort I was making at the suggestion of the Chief Inspector of Stock to ascertain if possible the ages of horned cattle in Queensland. The return I was able to compile for 1889 from a variety of causes did not prove very successful. However, on proceeding to collect the live stock statistics for 1890, I distributed freely among graziers a circular in which I stated the object I had in view in trying to ascertain the ages of cattle, and pointing out the advantages likely to be derived by them from a compilation of this nature. I also therein requested their co-operation and assistance in the advancement of my purpose. This, I am happy to say, produced very good results, and I have been so far successful as to obtain the approximate ages of about 82 per cent. of the horned cattle in Queensland. I beg leave to tender my acknowledgments to stock owners for their evident willingness to assist me, and also for the trouble and care they have taken in compiling the returns. My acknowledgments are also due to the intelligent and persevering efforts of many officers of police to secure complete returns in this particular. Some graziers and also some of the collectors might have done more to assist me in the matter, but I trust that during the next collection even these will give me their co-operation, so that a yet larger measure of success may be attained. Table D, page 5, shows the compiled results of this information under this head for 1890, and although not perfect, I think they will go a considerable way towards enabling those interested to obtain a reliable estimate of the probable meat supply of this Colony from year to year.

The return shows that out of 5,558,264 horned cattle in the colony at the close of 1890, the ages of 4,542,278 have been ascertained, and that they consist of the following:—953,386 are calves under one year, 859,756 are between one and two years, 742,517 are between two and three years, 658,343 are between three and four years, 506,695 are between four and five years, and 821,581 are five years and over. Thus, if four years be taken as the age when a beast is fit for the shambles, there are 1,128,276 beasts fit for the purposes of meat supply, added to which is the proportion of the 1,015,986, whose ages have not been ascertained, and minus males and females used for breeding purposes.

AGRICULTURAL RETURNS.

Whilst the result of the statistical collection for last year discloses such satisfactory returns with regard to the pastoral interest, the same cannot be said for agriculture. Notwithstanding the very favourable season experienced during 1890, which was most advantageous to farming pursuits, yet it is to be observed with regret that little or no progress appears to have been made in agricultural operations; indeed, a smaller area was placed under cultivation in 1890 than in 1889. The greater part of the decrease in the area of land placed under cultivation is accounted for by the fact that a considerable area planted in 1889 with artificially grass cut for hay was in the subsequent year used for depasturing only, and thus removed from the category of cultivated land. This, however, only explains the retrogression in agricultural operations; the absence of advancement remains still unaccounted for. In the Appendix will be found Tables V. and VI., which contain a full statement of the agricultural operations in each district of the Colony during 1890, and Table VIII. shows the average production per acre of each description of crop, whilst Table VII. contains returns of the wheat production during the year.

From the returns contained in the tables referred to a comprehensive summary has been prepared, which exhibits the total area under crop, the quantity of each kind of crop produced, and the average yield per acre in each division of the Colony. (See Table E, page 6.)

Police District.			Under 1 Year.	1-2.	2-3.	3-4.	4-5.	Over 5 Years.	Age not Stated.	Total.
Adavale	...	...	6,110	6,875	5,590	4,546	2,267	5,456	524	31,368
Allora	...	...	1,840	1,544	1,340	1,339	1,313	1,441	1,854	10,671
Aramac	...	...	3,522	3,231	2,054	1,633	1,586	1,890	12,867	26,783
Arrillalah	...	...	6,728	5,059	5,590	4,809	4,566	11,439	2,200	40,391
Augathella	...	...	5,989	5,326	4,115	4,347	2,817	6,098	16,601	45,293
Ayr	...	...	6,230	4,999	4,149	5,101	3,033	8,626	4,061	36,199
Banana	...	...	19,189	18,241	11,784	11,113	8,764	8,861	46,258	124,210
Barcaldine	...	...	11,489	10,425	7,601	6,934	3,944	8,524	471	49,388
Blackall	...	...	1,914	4,298	3,496	3,116	3,754	1,724	1,503	19,805
Bollon	...	...	8,032	6,094	6,386	5,879	4,437	5,911	819	37,558
Boulia	...	...	42,413	29,646	37,909	36,525	10,714	20,490	1,320	179,017
Bowen	...	...	34,150	28,362	24,468	20,555	12,677	28,616	33,470	182,298
Brisbane	...	...	5,299	2,604	2,606	3,608	5,155	11,262	2,333	32,867
Bundaberg	...	...	10,062	12,439	9,544	9,189	6,077	16,002	6,555	69,868
Burke	...	...	15,471	18,307	14,567	10,577	11,513	8,291	6,250	84,976
Caboolture	...	...	3,249	2,443	2,407	2,422	2,500	7,656	5,583	26,260
Cairns	...	...	1,405	1,291	1,009	1,089	1,087	1,946	1,130	8,957
Camoweal	...	...	6,060	2,371	2,372	2,028	1,348	1,848	13,495	29,522
Cape River	...	...	15,120	7,565	6,912	6,153	5,649	8,199	66,900	116,498
Cardwell	...	...	2,285	1,920	1,613	1,582	1,696	2,031	283	11,415
Charleville	...	...	12,708	13,277	13,128	9,908	7,497	11,152	17,714	85,384
Charters Towers	...	...	28,939	22,333	22,163	24,453	18,690	29,945	17,014	163,537
Clermont	...	...	24,823	22,008	17,751	14,291	9,495	17,993	54,944	161,305
Cleveland	...	...	610	425	356	375	326	531	...	2,623
Cloncurry	...	...	32,619	34,688	29,407	17,788	13,334	35,184	47,981	211,001
Condamine	...	...	4,669	3,510	2,688	2,190	1,630	1,952	12,138	28,777
Cook	...	...	11,882	12,308	10,103	9,512	9,881	14,486	2,126	70,298
Crow's Nest	...	...	2,974	2,289	2,129	2,605	1,283	1,837	...	13,117
Croydon	...	...	8,423	4,983	3,793	4,406	2,591	4,284	115	28,595
Cunnamulla	...	...	20,185	19,362	25,457	22,659	13,622	11,887	...	113,172
Dalby	...	...	8,408	7,137	6,581	6,303	4,097	7,437	3,676	43,639
Diamantina	...	...	35,935	22,410	20,717	12,870	8,838	12,064	41,390	154,224
Douglas	...	...	386	362	282	461	519	859	...	2,869
Eidsvold	...	...	6,865	8,220	5,988	4,169	2,870	9,690	25	37,827
Emerald	...	...	8,960	7,176	4,779	4,081	3,839	5,959	12,358	47,152
Esk	...	...	7,160	6,796	6,158	9,076	9,599	9,030	17,241	65,060
Etheridge	...	...	18,718	17,906	15,552	13,902	11,904	20,251	28	98,261
Eulo	...	...	15,400	12,374	11,109	13,199	6,677	14,932	4,582	78,273
Gatton	...	...	5,459	3,442	2,180	3,482	6,593	8,377	3,460	32,993
Gayndah	...	...	20,034	20,742	18,800	14,965	10,065	19,943	1,235	105,784
Gilbert	...	...	137	101	41	52	3	139	...	473
Gladstone	...	...	23,341	25,432	23,044	17,329	10,047	21,655	24,033	144,881
Goodna	...	...	584	449	451	405	322	555	...	2,766
Goondiwindi	...	...	3,809	3,912	3,537	2,997	2,223	4,064	...	20,542
Gympie	...	...	6,577	5,021	4,844	4,109	3,845	10,322	8,332	43,050
Herberton	...	...	6,826	6,806	4,934	4,648	3,436	9,168	11,382	47,200
Highfields	...	...	1,573	757	695	1,361	555	1,437	2,864	9,242
Hughenden	...	...	38,456	35,990	27,538	15,622	18,333	28,613	33,489	198,041
Hungerford	...	...	177	119	74	1,292	44	279	...	1,985
Ingham	...	...	5,226	4,776	4,469	3,694	4,745	8,084	12,733	43,727
Inglewood	...	...	2,508	3,058	2,566	3,045	1,217	1,744	224	14,362
Ipswich	...	...	3,970	2,117	1,801	1,866	1,448	4,719	...	15,921
Isisford	...	...	7,370	9,379	7,055	4,254	3,401	4,100	270	35,829
Leyburn	...	...	996	575	839	594	366	1,021	...	4,391
Logan	...	...	7,449	5,712	5,297	7,200	12,521	9,131	2,468	49,778
Mackay	...	...	15,856	11,988	9,334	9,872	8,403	14,263	3,944	73,660
Marburg	...	...	2,760	1,019	1,143	1,150	1,290	1,568	93	9,023
Maryborough	...	...	7,793	7,397	5,683	4,576	4,070	9,660	5,914	45,093
Mitchell	...	...	15,720	14,476	11,457	8,317	5,919	12,505	7,749	76,143
Moonie	...	...	2,229	1,662	2,322	1,358	1,726	622	...	9,919
Mourilyan	...	...	32	52	30	24	46	253	...	437
Muttaborra	...	...	16,973	10,504	7,443	7,665	5,638	6,792	17,951	72,966
Nanango	...	...	9,346	11,479	10,465	11,283	6,079	15,424	72	64,148
Nebo	...	...	8,830	8,937	7,860	6,258	5,979	9,719	17,325	64,908
Nerang	...	...	1,179	909	682	628	738	1,064	261	5,461
Norman	...	...	25,884	28,547	22,205	25,949	15,451	23,181	8,500	149,717
Normanby	...	...	4,981	2,550	2,137	3,264	6,753	4,906	3,001	27,592
Palmer	...	...	2,133	1,633	1,565	1,355	1,283	2,728	240	10,937
Ravenswood	...	...	1,786	1,209	1,098	855	1,060	1,396	2,717	10,121
Rockhampton	...	...	30,514	29,521	26,071	25,658	24,368	27,416	38,501	202,049
Roma	...	...	13,033	11,512	8,276	6,794	4,691	7,503	12,805	64,614
St. George	...	...	2,001	4,576	4,644	3,886	1,313	2,670	328	19,418
St. Lawrence	...	...	20,171	20,640	17,961	11,085	9,905	16,133	23,026	118,921
Somerset	...	...	529	421	321	256	577	213	15,000	17,317
Springure	...	...	25,930	24,549	20,110	12,767	9,323	17,031	7,325	117,035
Stanthorpe	...	...	4,185	3,269	2,840	2,864	1,819	4,103	1,003	20,083
Surat	...	...	7,363	4,101	4,367	3,576	6,089	3,892	14,189	43,577
Tambo	...	...	2,231	4,092	2,897	3,361	2,781	1,197	2,189	18,748
Taroom	...	...	20,912	27,305	19,933	14,218	8,897	21,796	8,425	121,486
Tenningering	...	...	7,371	6,324	6,280	4,603	3,324	8,824	2,491	39,217
Thargomindah	...	...	25,425	32,224	27,960	25,021	24,153	28,326	116,283	279,392
Thornborough	...	...	6,653	4,570	3,669	3,026	2,588	3,511	29,341	53,358
Tiaro	...	...	6,090	5,397	6,444	5,997	5,929	6,304	6,407	42,568
Toowoomba	...	...	7,321	3,503	3,749	4,751	4,023	5,355	1,630	30,332
Townsville	...	...	8,664	6,317	6,257	6,306	5,126	8,296	5,989	46,955
Warwick	...	...	5,954	3,847	3,137	3,497	2,676	3,964	2,974	26,049
Windorah	...	...	26,456	22,356	16,281	18,230	11,664	26,778	103,978	225,743
Winton	...	...	26,368	23,878	16,073	18,185	12,261	15,053	36	111,854
Totals for 1890	...	...	953,386	859,756	742,517	658,343	506,695	821,581	1,015,986	5,558,264
Totals for 1889	...	...	252,626	327,842	290,748	215,811	158,939	303,582	3,322,868	4,872,416
Increase in 1890	...	...	700,760	531,914	451,769	442,532	347,756	517,999	...	685,848
Decrease in 1890	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,306,882	...

E.
AREA UNDER CROP.

Division.	Description.	GRAIN CROPS.						POTATOES.		SUGAR-CANE.	Cotton.	Arrow-root.	Tobacco.	Hay of all Kinds.	Green Forage.	VINES.			Bananas.	Pine Apples.	Oranges.	Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards.
		Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Rice.	Rye.	English.	Sweet.							For Wine.	For Table Use.	Unproductive.					
SOUTHERN	East of Main Range	Acres. 50	Acres. 42	Acres. 246	Acres. 63,810	Acres. 13	Acres. 35	Acres. 4,227	Acres. 1,290	Acres. 18,800	Acres. 14	Acres. 265	Acres. 12	Acres. 12,471	Acres. 3,543	Acres. 349	Acres. 383	Acres. 135	Acres. 1,334	Acres. 432	Acres. 514	Acres. 298	Acres. 1,041
	West of Main Range	10,339	324	299	27,503	3	134	1,407	26	13	...	...	450	17,901	5,588	337	516	192	...	...	123	152	637
	Total Southern	10,389	366	545	91,313	16	169	5,634	1,316	18,813	14	265	462	30,272	9,131	686	899	327	1,334	432	637	450	1,678
CENTRAL	East of Main Range	...	16	6	730	...	...	87	79	543	...	...	2	430	51	4	17	2	13	11	89	6	127
	West of Main Range	...	...	...	7	...	...	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	4	...	...	...	...	12	18
	Total Central	...	16	6	737	...	...	95	80	543	...	...	2	430	58	4	21	2	13	11	89	18	145
NORTHERN	East of Coast Range	1	29	33	6,687	284	...	474	1,210	31,566	2	11	76	333	345	...	19	19	2,524	266	503	1,597	554
	West of Coast Range	...	...	...	663	...	...	67	118	...	...	...	...	31	12	...	1	3	19	12	5	23	48
	Total Northern	1	29	33	7,350	284	...	541	1,328	31,566	2	11	76	364	357	...	20	22	2,543	278	508	1,620	602
TOTAL COLONY		10,390	411	584	99,400	300	169	6,260	2,724	50,922	16	276	540	31,066	9,546	690	940	351	3,890	721	1,234	2,088	2,425

Produce of Crops.

SOUTHERN	...	East of Main Range West of Main Range	...	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Lb.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Area Crushed	Tons of Sugár.	Lb.	Lb.	Cwt.	Tons.		Gallons.	Lb.		Dozen.	Dozen.	Dozen.					
				1,118	536	4,980	1,385,603	25,560	446	8,296	8,022	13,500	27,441	5,312	689,382	90	26,342	...	101,862	750,417	...	2,511,352	190,165	462,699	...	...	
				206,842	7,351	6,423	731,703	200	2,226	3,371	53	...	...	...	...	1,894	21,879	...	87,042	1,563,878	...	...	...	138,834	...	...	
		Total Southern	...	207,960	7,887	11,403	2,117,306	25,760	2,672	11,667	8,075	13,500	27,441	5,312	689,382	1,984	48,221	...	188,904	2,314,295	...	2,511,352	190,165	601,533	...	...	
CENTRAL	...	East of Main Range West of Main Range	...	...	160	150	19,855	...	...	165	820	411	480	...	...	13	1,030	...	370	26,330	...	19,534	3,610	52,298	...	...	
				...	...	...	140	...	...	16	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,560	...	...	...	...	...	...
				Total Central	160	150	19,995	181	821	411	480	13	1,030	...	370	43,890	...	19,534	3,610	52,298	
NORTHERN	...	East of Coast Range West of Coast Range	...	30	920	1,120	222,347	565,229	...	1,093	6,225	26,297	41,003	3	22,762	395	817	...	...	44,828	...	19,459,388	68,055	255,078	...	...	
				14,155	171	577	48	...	1,850	...	11,818	1,519	4,850		
				Total Northern	30	920	1,120	236,502	565,229	...	1,264	6,802	26,297	41,003	3	22,762	395	865	46,678	...	19,471,206	69,574	259,928
TOTAL COLONY				207,990	8,967	12,673	2,373,803	590,989	2,672	13,112	15,697	40,208	68,924	5,315	712,144	2,392	50,116	...	189,274	2,404,863	...	22,002,092	263,349	913,759

Average Yield per Acre.

Division.	Description.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Lb.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons of Sugar to Acres Crushed.	Lb.	Lb.	Cwt.	Tons.	Gallons.	Lb.	Dozen.	Dozen.	Dozen.	...	...
	
SOUTHERN	East of Main Range	22.36	12.76	20.24	21.71	1,966.15	12.74	1.96	6.22	2.03	379.43	2,601.44	7.50	2.11	291.87	1,959.31	1,882.57	440.20	900.19	...	...
	West of Main Range	20.01	22.69	21.48	26.60	66.67	16.61	2.40	2.04	...	...	...	4.09	1.23	258.28	3,030.77	...	...	1,128.73	...	...
	Total Southern	20.02	21.55	20.92	23.19	1,610.00	15.81	2.07	6.14	2.03	379.43	2,601.44	4.30	1.59	275.37	2,574.30	1,882.57	440.20	944.32	...	...
CENTRAL	East of Main Range	...	10.00	25.00	27.20	...	...	1.90	10.38	1.17	...	...	6.50	2.40	92.50	1,548.82	1,502.62	328.18	587.62	...	...
	West of Main Range	...	...	...	20.00	...	...	2.00	1.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,390.00	...	...	...	...	...
	Total Central	...	10.00	25.00	27.12	...	...	1.91	10.26	1.17	...	...	6.50	2.40	92.50	2,090.00	1,502.62	328.18	587.62	...	...
NORTHERN	East of Coast Range	30.00	31.72	33.94	33.25	1,990.24	...	2.31	5.14	1.56	1.50	2,069.27	5.20	2.45	...	2,359.37	7,709.74	255.85	507.11	...	...
	West of Coast Range	...	...	...	21.35	...	...	2.55	4.89	...	...	...	...	1.55	...	1,850.00	126.00	126.58	970.00	...	...
	Total Northern	30.00	31.72	33.94	32.16	1,990.24	...	2.34	5.12	1.56	1.50	2,069.27	5.20	2.38	...	2,333.90	7,656.79	250.27	511.67	...	...
TOTAL COLONY		20.02	21.82	21.68	23.88	1,969.96	15.81	2.09	5.76	1.69	332.19	2,580.23	4.43	1.61	274.31	2,547.73	5,656.06	365.26	740.49	...	...

From this summary it will be observed that the greater portion of the land under cultivation is in the Southern division of the Colony; the Central contributing only a very small area to the agricultural operations. With the exception of a little maize and some rice grown in the Northern division, it will be found that the production of cereals is confined almost entirely to the Southern division. Of the cereals, wheat and maize have principally engaged the attention of farmers—the former on the west and the latter to the east of the Main Range; but proportions of each of these crops cultivated in each of these localities are different; for, whilst east of the Range two-thirds of the maize was grown, west of the Range contributed almost the whole of the area sown with wheat. Sugar-cane, English potatoes, vines, hay, and green forage are the other crops principally grown in the Southern division; while sugar-cane principally, with rice, bananas, and other tropical fruits, are those which engage the attention of the agriculturist in the northern division. Sugar-cane, maize, and hay constituted the principal crops on the comparatively small area cultivated in the Central division. Sweet potatoes and oranges appear to be grown in about equal quantities in both Southern and Northern divisions. It will also be observed from the return that the cultivation of sugar-cane, sweet potatoes, bananas, and other tropical and sub-tropical fruits are almost entirely confined to Coastal districts.

It is difficult to understand why wheat, during such a favourable season as that of 1890, did not receive more attention at the hands of the farmers of East and West Moreton, seeing that what may be called the experimental area of 50 acres grown east of the Range gave a better average return—viz., 22.36 bushels to the acre—than the average of the crop west of the Range, which was only 20.01 bushels per acre. Exceptionally good results were obtained from the one acre planted in the Northern division, but this being on so limited an area fails to carry any significance. However, the yields given by all cereals cultivated in the same division on the small areas planted during 1890 appear to justify a more extended area being placed under their cultivation.

Sugar cultivation, which is confined to the coast side of the Range, gave better average results in the Southern than in either of the other divisions, but this fact is attributable to the exceptionally large returns from this crop in the Bundaberg district. The yield received from the land planted under the different varieties of crops used for hay, as well as that planted with cereal crops, produced better proportionate results in the Central and Northern districts than in the Southern. This is, no doubt, due to the large proportion of virgin soil cultivated, and also the fact that the land worked has not yet been tilled long enough to cause it to be exhausted, which may be the case in the Southern division. The cultivation of vines appears to be confined entirely to the Southern division; the absence of sufficient cold in winter to check the growth at that period of the year, so as to give them rest and to permit of their being pruned without injury, is perhaps a bar to their success in the Northern parts of the Colony. In the South, viticulture appear to be pursued with about equal success on both sides of the Range. Fruit of many different kinds grow most readily and bear prolifically in the Colony, but as yet no effort of an extended nature has been made, as in California, to preserve fruit, so as to render it suitable for consumption in foreign markets, and the local markets are by no means advantageous to the growers to dispose of their crop. It may be observed that the yield of bananas last year was exceptionally good. Yet the results of sales to growers was disappointing, as the fruit became so cheap that in many cases it did not pay the cost of carriage. Further on, remarks relative to each crop cultivated in Queensland will be found in proper place, together with tabular statements to facilitate comparisons of the results of each in 1890 with those of the previous year.

As I have previously observed, notwithstanding the favourable condition as to seasons existing for farmers last year, they do not appear to have extended their operations as might have been reasonably expected. This may have been due to the reduced prices for produce obtained in 1889, the result of increased production in a young community with a comparatively small population and a consequent limited market, producers having to rely almost entirely on a local sale of produce. With this fact before them, it becomes therefore absolutely necessary, if agriculture is to be successful in Queensland, that our farmers should, as much as possible, avoid relying solely on crops such as maize, potatoes, and hay, and devote more attention to the production, and conservation for transport, of commodities suited to supply the needs of distant countries where unlimited and good markets can be found for such produce. The following statement will show the falling off in agricultural operations in 1890, compared with 1889, because it gives a comparison between the area cultivated, that under crop, and that under artificially sown pasture in each of the years referred to. The tables in the Appendix furnish full details, of which this is but a brief summary:—

				Area under Cultivation.		Area under Crop.		Area under Artificially Sown Pasture.
				Acres.		Acres.		Acres.
1889	...	...	...	247,073	...	232,643	...	16,120
1890	...	...	...	239,618	...	224,993	...	222,252
Increase in 1890				...	...	...	...	6,132
Decrease in 1890				7,455	...	7,650		

WHEAT.—Table VII. in the Appendix contains information relative to this cereal, and, considering the very satisfactory results which followed its cultivation in 1889, it might have been reasonably expected that a more extended area would have been planted in 1890, but such was not the case. On the contrary, a falling off amounting to nearly 25 per cent. is observable. The farmers, however, who were fortunate enough to give it attention were well rewarded, the results being the most satisfactory of any preceding year for the last decenniad, 1887 alone excepted. The most noticeable feature in connection with this crop was the unusually large area unaffected by rust; of the 12,063 acres planted, 10,639 were free from this parasite, and on the remaining acreage the disease was evidently not very severe, as from the affected portion of the wheat-growing land returns were obtained averaging higher than the mean yields from this crop in most years. It will also be observed that 96 acres only were returned as unproductive, an area barely equal to 0.8 per cent. on the acreage sown.

The

The result of the wheat crop for the past five years, in a comparative form, will be found in the following statement :—

F.

Year.	Total Extent of Land Sown with Wheat.	Increase on the Previous Year.	Decrease on the Previous Year.	Total Area for Grain.	Return to the Total Acreage Sown.	Return to the Acreage for Grain.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Bush. lb.	Bushels.
1886	15,665	2,366	...	6,787	1 21	3·13
1887	10,563	...	5,102	8,248	17 15	22·10
1888	9,602	...	961	9,305	0 52	0·89
1889	15,861	6,259	...	8,459	8 28	15·88
1890	12,063	...	3,798	10,390	17 14	20·2

From this it will be seen that, although during the period embraced in the table the area sown in 1890 has been exceeded on two previous occasions—namely, in 1886 and 1889, yet the area reaped for grain was considerably greater than in either of the years mentioned, and with a fairly satisfactory result of something over 20 bushels per acre. Owing to such a result, it is not much a matter for surprise that but little of the area planted with this cereal was cut for hay. A reference to Table VII. in the Appendix will show that, as in the past, Warwick, Allora, and Toowoomba are the districts within which wheat is principally grown; Highfields, Leyburn, Roma, and Gatton showing smaller but substantial areas. The range of wheat culture was slightly more restricted last year, embracing 32 districts in 1890, as against 35 in 1889. The following statement shows the Police districts within which not less than 100 acres of wheat was planted in either 1889 and 1890 :—

District.	1889. Acres.	1890. Acres.
Warwick	5,641	4,484
Allora	5,639	3,822
Toowoomba	2,962	2,350
Highfields	620	506
Roma	439	216
Dalby	105	30
Gatton	103	106
Leyburn	55	348

From this it will be seen that Gatton and Leyburn are the only districts which show any increase; but the increase in the last-mentioned district is a substantial one.

OATS.—In common with most other grain crops, the area under oats was not so great in 1890 as in the previous year; the average yield of grain—namely, 21·82 bushels per acre, however, was greater than in any year of the preceding decenniad, except 1887. The return from the area mown for hay was not so good as in 1889, being 1·60 tons to the acre, against 2·29 in the latter year. This yield is not exceptional, as hay crops of all kinds during last year exhibit a marked falling off as compared with the figures for 1889. From some cause oaten hay grown in Queensland is not of such good quality as that imported from New Zealand and the Southern Colonies. Whether this is inherent to the climate or is due to any defective mode of production is a question which might well occupy the attention of our farmers with a view to amendment if resulting from the latter cause. Many persons are of opinion that farmers in Queensland let their crop of oaten hay ripen too much before cutting, and are not careful enough in saving it for market. This should be looked to by them, and care taken to remedy the defects, so as to render the home article at least equal to that imported, and thus be in a position to retain in Queensland the £13,000 annually sent away for hay and chaff to the neighbouring colonies. Having freight and a duty of about 15 per cent. in their favour as protection, should prove a sufficient inducement to our farmers to make more exertion to retain the market for hay in their own hands. The following statement will facilitate a comparison of this crop for the past two years :—

G.

Year.	Total Acreage Sown.	Reaped for Grain.	Total Produce.	Mown for Hay.	Total Produce.	Cut for Green Fodder.	Average Produce each Year.	
		Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Grain per Acre.	Hay per Acre.
1889	15,004	750	14,561	12,717	29,093	1,537	19·41	2·29
1890	10,618	411	8,967	8,913	14,219	1,294	21·82	1·60
Increase in 1890 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2·41	...
Decrease in 1890	4,386	339	5,594	3,804	14,874	243	...	0·69

BARLEY.—The falling off in the acreage of land sown was proportionally more marked with regard to this crop than any of the other cereals. The yield of grain on the area sown was greater by 0·44 bushels than in 1889, but the yield of hay per acre was 1·51 tons less than in the previous year. There were 2,845 acres planted in 1889, and only 1,456 acres in 1890. The following Table shows the results obtained from this crop for the two years mentioned :—

H.

	Area Sown.	Reaped for Grain.	Mown for Hay.	Cut for Green Fodder.	Average Yield per Acre.	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Grain.	Hay.
1889	2,845	1,254	544	1,047	Bushels. 21·24	Tons. 3·11
1890	1,456	584	258	614	21·68	1·60
Increase in 1890 ... ..	...	...	...	...	0·44	...
Decrease in 1890	1,389	670	286	433	...	1·51

The figures giving the average results obtained from barley for the past seven years, can be seen in Table VIII., which will show that the highest return obtained was 27·03 bushels to the acre in 1877, and the lowest 21·24 in 1889, it is difficult to understand why this crop, which yields such a fair average over a series of years, is not more generally cultivated, and our farmers secure for themselves at least a share of the £34,000 sent out of Queensland annually for the purchase of malt.

MAIZE.—In spite of the very unsatisfactory return obtained from the large area planted in 1889, a still larger acreage was planted with this crop in 1890, and with much better results. The 97,698 acres planted for grain in 1889 yielded 1,743,051 bushels, or an average per acre of 17·84 bushels; whilst the year 1890 shows that 99,400 acres were planted with this cereal, which yielded 2,373,803 bushels, or an average of 23·88 bushels per acre. This shows that the area planted and the grain obtained was more than in any year for the last seven years, except in 1888. With such a favourable yield, the price of maize fell much below the average, and farmers consequently complain bitterly of the unremunerative nature of the crop in 1890; but it is suggested that the remedy is, to a great extent, in their own hands, by not rushing such quantities into the market at the same time. In the Bundaberg district, efforts are now being made by farmers to store maize in iron tanks, hermetically sealed so as to keep weevils out; and in such receptacles, which are very cheap at present, destructive insects of all kinds can be easily destroyed by fumigation and other means. By such an arrangement farmers could take advantage of the market when prices rise. The American system of feeding maize when cheap to pigs, by which a better return is obtained for it in the shape of pork, is also now engaging the attention of many farmers in the East and West Moreton districts. This manner of disposing of maize is gradually gaining ground in the districts mentioned in consequence of the many bacon-curing establishments now at work in these districts, and the facility with which the farmers find they can dispose of their pigs to agents of these establishments, who go about purchasing them and taking delivery of them at any railway station. More attention has also been given to the class of pigs reared, the small Berkshire being the most fancied. With such an opening, it is to be hoped that farmers will get from year to year a better return for their maize crop. It will also be noted that the cultivation of this cereal absorbs an area approaching half the whole of the land placed under crop. A comparison of this crop for 1889 and 1890 may be seen in the following table:—

I.

							Grain.		Green Fodder.
							Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.
1890	...	...	...	...	...	...	99,400	2,373,803	857
1889	...	...	...	...	...	...	97,698	1,743,051	1,316
Increase in 1890							1,702	630,752	...
Decrease in 1890							...	...	459

The following Table, showing the principal maize-producing districts arranged in their order of importance as regards the production of that cereal, will enable a comparison to be drawn between the results obtained during the last two years:—

J.

Police District.			Area Planted for Grain.			Yield of Grain.			Average Yield per Acre.		
			In 1889.	In 1890.	Increase * or Decrease †	In 1889.	In 1890.	Increase * or Decrease †	In 1889.	In 1890.	Increase * or Decrease †
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Gatton	...	...	19,878	15,476	+4,402	292,365	356,257	* 63,892	14·71	23·02	* 8·31
Normanby	...	...	9,569	9,707	* 138	132,724	202,683	* 69,959	13·87	20·88	* 7·01
Marburg	...	...	4,215	9,384	*5,169	34,010	199,481	*165,471	8·06	21·26	*13·20
Warwick	...	...	8,950	8,098	+ 852	117,411	196,113	* 78,702	13·12	24·22	*11·10
Toowoomba	...	...	5,169	7,026	*1,857	52,729	187,158	*134,429	10·20	26·64	*16·44
Highfields	...	...	5,496	5,910	* 414	40,329	196,369	*156,040	7·34	33·23	*25·89
Allora	...	...	5,220	5,288	* 68	38,719	129,870	* 91,151	7·42	24·56	*17·14
Bundaberg	...	...	5,974	4,653	+1,321	188,852	138,827	+ 50,525	31·61	29·73	+ 1·88
Logan	...	...	4,069	4,016	+ 53	98,583	79,835	+ 18,748	24·22	19·88	+ 4·34
Maryborough	...	...	3,415	3,730	* 315	105,209	99,767	+ 5,442	30·80	26·69	+ 4·11
Brisbane	...	...	4,206	3,599	+ 707	93,030	54,990	+ 39,040	22·11	15·28	+ 6·83
Tiaro	...	...	2,258	2,325	* 67	54,414	30,487	+ 23,927	24·09	15·11	+ 8·98
Ipswich	...	...	2,147	2,225	* 78	32,020	55,893	* 23,873	14·91	25·12	*10·21
Esk	...	...	1,934	2,069	* 135	36,517	46,601	* 10,084	18·87	22·52	* 3·65
Cairns	...	...	1,469	1,953	* 484	73,787	78,284	* 4,497	50·23	40·08	+10·15
Nerang	...	...	1,616	1,926	* 310	45,880	30,016	+ 15,864	28·39	15·58	+12·81
Gympie	...	...	1,820	1,711	+ 109	54,899	37,845	+ 17,054	30·16	22·12	+ 8·04
Caboolture	...	...	770	1,111	* 341	17,421	21,207	* 3,229	22·62	19·09	+ 3·53
Herberton	...	...	625	1,083	* 458	17,978	30,927	* 12,949	28·76	28·00	* 0·76
Goodna	...	...	992	1,024	* 32	9,867	13,552	* 3,685	10·95	13·24	* 2·29
Ayr	...	...	1,202	865	+ 337	33,962	18,311	+ 15,651	28·25	21·17	+ 7·08
Douglas	...	...	1,167	785	+ 382	42,630	41,484	+ 1,146	36·44	52·84	*16·40
Mackay	...	...	895	686	+ 209	23,807	14,408	+ 9,399	26·60	21·01	+ 5·59
Ingham...	...	...	280	351	* 71	7,363	13,616	* 6,253	26·30	38·79	*12·49

From this it will be seen that West Moreton is the great centre of maize farming, upwards of one-third of the whole acreage planted being found in the three districts of Gatton, Normanby, and Marburg; the Downs contributing about one-fourth; East Moreton, Wide Bay and Burnett, about one-tenth each; and the remainder being mainly supplied by districts located from Mackay northwards. All the districts which show a decrease in acreage under maize, approximating 1,000 acres or upwards, were more or less severely visited by floods in the early part of 1890, and in many of the returns it is specifically stated that the whole crop was destroyed by the visitation. On the other hand, at Marburg—where, in common with other districts, farmers suffered from too much moisture in the early part of the year—

year—some of the second crop failed at the spring planting from want of rain just at the critical period. That unscientific modes of agriculture are still pursued by our farmers may be fairly assumed from the details shown in the above table regarding the average yield per acre of the crop under review, from which it may be seen because that while in East Moreton the average yield was 16·81 bushels per acre, in West Moreton 22·50, in Wide Bay and Burnett 23·59, in Darling Downs 27·14, while in the Northern districts it was 33·93—from these results it would appear that the productiveness of farms deteriorates in direct proportion to the period during which the district has been in the hands of the cultivator. This argument is further supported by an examination of the figures respecting maize to be found in Table VIII. in the Appendix, from which it will be seen that the mean average of the colony is steadily declining, doubtless from the same cause—viz., the suicidal practice of planting land year after year, perhaps, with the same kind of crop, without any sufficient return in the way of manure to make good the constituents taken from the soil. There can be no question that, with anything like favourable seasons, proper rotations of crops, and a careful selection of land suited to the crop to be grown, a largely increased yield could be obtained. Farmers have little excuse at present for their slovenly system of farming, as the well-managed Agricultural Department of this Colony is always open to any persons seeking advice. If, from want of scientific knowledge, they fail to grow remunerative crops, advice of the most valuable kind can be obtained, which, if followed, cannot fail to be beneficial to them. The following statement gives the average yield per acre for the past five years in each of the important maize-growing districts, together with the mean average yield in each district for the whole of that period:—

K.

District.	Maize.—Average Yield per Acre.					Average per Acre for Five Years.
	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Gatton	17·62	17·07	23·67	14·71	23·02	19·22†
Nerimanby	22·31	17·81	22·88	13·87	20·88	19·55†
Marburg	14·91	15·66	24·29	8·07	21·26	16·84†
Bundaberg	31·49	34·61	25·49	31·61	29·73	30·59†
Warwick	23·93	29·02	27·55	13·12	24·22	23·57§
Toowoomba	16·21	22·72	20·84	10·20	26·24	19·24§
Logan	25·32	9·12	26·09	24·23	19·88	20·93†
Brisbane	25·89	18·39	29·01	22·12	15·31	22·14†
Highfields	14·68	25·71	28·66	7·34	33·23	21·92§
Allora	14·48	21·37	12·99	7·42	24·56	16·00§
Ipswich	21·21	23·95	29·63	14·91	25·12	22·96†
Gympie	36·68	26·65	28·24	30·16	22·12	29·17†
Tiaro	32·45	32·54	31·52	24·10	15·81	27·28†
Maryborough	22·27	26·51	26·65	30·80	26·69	26·58†
Douglas	30·38	45·95	55·47	36·53	52·84	44·23||
Cairns	38·86	33·56	41·12	50·23	40·08	40·75||

† A district in Southern Division below the Range.

|| A district in the Northern Division.

‡ A district in Wide Bay and Burnett Division.

§ A district in Southern Division above the Range.

From this it will be seen that the averages of Brisbane, Gympie, and Tiaro, are the only ones much below the mean. This was occasioned in each instance by loss from flood in the first half of the year. Port Douglas, one of the most Northern settlements where agriculture has obtained a footing to any extent, stands out pre-eminent with an average of 52·84 bushels per acre for 1890 and a mean for the five years of 44·23; Cairns being well forward, with 40·08 bushels to the acre and a mean of 40·75. In my report for 1889 I commented very fully on the results of the maize crop, and expressed my opinion as to what I believed to be the immediate cause of the better return obtained by Northern farmers compared with those in the Southern districts. I then pointed out that, irrespective of good or bad seasons, maize had always steadily maintained a fair average yield in almost all districts in the Colony, and this fact, no doubt, the farmers have ascertained for themselves, the consequence being that it is such a favourite crop with them, notwithstanding that in years of plenty, such as 1890, the price falls so low as to render the crop almost unremunerative. The Queensland farmers are not the only ones who experience like results, because this is exactly the condition of things in the United States with respect to this crop. The Secretary of Agriculture at Washington, in his Report for 1890, page 296, in connection with a short crop for that year in America, observes:—

“The returns of farm value of the crop” (speaking of maize) “show in a striking way the influence of short crops upon prices. While the crop aggregates only 70 per cent. of that of last year, the aggregate money value of the crop to the producer is 156,000,000 dollars greater.

“The advance in value is in greater ratio than the decline in volume. It proves that the law of supply and demand still controls, and that small crops are a sure cure for low prices, but, unfortunately, the absolute failure of the crop in large districts prevents all growers from sharing the average enhancement of the remaining product.”

Can the Queensland farmer find no other than a local market for his Indian corn, when in a successful year more of the commodity is placed on the market than there are purchasers for, except at ruinously low prices. If this cannot be done, and until an export market can be provided for superabundant production, maize will seldom be remunerative to the grower. In the United States the same difficulty as to export presents itself. The great bulk of corn grown there amounting to an average annual production of 1,684,036,413 bushels in eleven years—1880 to 1890—the greater part is used at home; the annual average of export for a period of twenty years was only 3·9 per cent. of the production. This leads them, as it is to be hoped it will our farmers, to seek for means of utilising such an enormous production of this cereal, and this they seem to have found in feeding it to hogs. This industry has assumed enormous proportions in the States. In 1889-90, for the year ending 31st March, no less than 3,047,651,000 lb. of hog products was put on the market by the packing establishments, exclusive of hogs killed and consumed by farmers or sold in villages, towns, or cities, which were not packed. Of this, 1,159,642,885 lb. was exported, and 1,888,088,115 was returned for home consumption. Commenting on this industry, the Secretary of Agriculture remarks, with respect to the price of hogs

hogs (page 98, Report of 1890):—"It is evident that there is some influence aside from the mere question of supply and demand which has had an equal or greater effect on the price of hogs. Our investigation indicates that this important factor is the price of corn." He gives a table showing statistics on this subject, and goes on to remark:—"The above table shows that the fluctuations in the price of corn and of hogs correspond so closely as to be really surprising."

This, then, seems to be the means adopted by the farmers in the United States to render maize payable, and it is a subject which might well engage the serious attention of farmers in this Colony. In the report I have quoted from, after the comparison of prices for a number of years, it was found that 8·5 lb. of hog meat brought as much as a bushel of corn. Those interested in this subject can soon find out for themselves whether, at the prices ruling for hogs in this Colony, maize sold as grain, or fed to pigs and sold as hog-flesh, would pay best.

The following statement shows the average production of maize per acre in the Northern and Southern Divisions of the colony respectively:—

L.

Districts, where Situated.										Percentage of Yield per Acre. (Average 1886-1890.)
Southern Division	...	...	...	...	{	East of the Range				21·71
						West of the Range				26·60
Northern Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33·94

RICE.—This grain was somewhat more freely planted in 1890 than in the previous year, and with greatly better results, as will be seen from the following statement:—

M.

						Acres	Lb.	Average lb.
1886	...	...	...	...	...	887	1,741,320	1,963·16
1887	...	...	...	...	...	515	1,319,920	2,562·95
1888	...	...	...	...	...	497	980,424	1,972·68
1889	...	...	...	...	...	249	230,781	926·83
1890	...	...	...	...	...	300	590,989	1,969·96

As will be seen, the production of this cereal last year was only a little over half a million pounds weight, whilst nearly 7,500,000 lb., valued at £47,193, were imported into Queensland during the same period. It is doubtless difficult for agriculturists in this colony to compete successfully in the growth of rice with countries where the cost of labour is not so great, but still with a duty amounting to £7 to £8 on the yield per acre, besides freight, &c., in their favour, northern farmers should surely be able to extend their operations so as to profitably supply the greater part of the local requirements.

I append a statement showing in geographical arrangement the districts where rice cultivation obtained in 1890, the area sown, and the quantity produced per acre:—

N.

District.	Position in the Colony.						Area Planted.	Quantity Produced.	Average Yield per Acre.
							Acres.	lb.	lb.
Cairns	Northern Division, Sea-coast	...	...	164	367,520	2,240·98
Cook	"	"	"	37	62,445	1,687·70
Douglas	"	"	"	61	77,680	1,273·44
Mackay	"	"	"	22	57,584	
Caboolture	Southern Division, Sea-coast	...	...	1	560	560·00
Esk	"	"	Below the Range	12	25,000	2,083·33
Warwick	"	"	Above the Range	{ 2	Nil	Nil
Toowoomba	"	"	Above the Range	{ 1	200	2,00·00
TOTAL							300	590,989	1,969·96

This return shows that of the total area under rice—namely, 300 acres—284 were planted from Mackay northwards, the remaining 16 acres were planted in the southern part of the Colony. The Central division contributed nothing towards the cultivation of this cereal during 1890. Of the area planted in the south, 12 acres in the police district of Esk gave satisfactory returns.

ENGLISH POTATOES.—Greater attention was given to the production of this useful vegetable in 1890 than in the preceding year, but, unfortunately, with less satisfactory results—the 6,270 acres planted yielding 13,112 tons, or an average of 2·09 tons per acre. Comparing this with 4,484 acres planted in the previous year, which yielded 10,650 tons, equal to 2·38 tons, the return was not so good as in the previous years. The acreage under cultivation last year with this crop was greater than in any previous year, except 1887, when 6,604 acres were planted. The crop of potatoes in 1889, taken at import value, would be worth about £51,000, whilst £59,000 worth of this commodity were imported during the year.

SWEET POTATOES.—This root showed an increase in cultivation during the year under review, although the average return obtained was not equal to that of some of the preceding years. This is partly due to the same cause to which I called attention in my last report—viz.: The patchy nature of the cultivation practised on the islands in Torres Straits, causing the acreage as returned to be out of proportion to the crops obtained. For instance, a considerable area planted with sweet potatoes in the police district of Somerset returned less than 1 ton to the acre, so that it will be readily understood that the average of the crop for the whole colony is seriously affected by the short crop in this locality. The figures for 1889 and 1890 are subjoined:—

		Acres planted.	Tons gathered.	Average yield per acre. Tons.
1889	...	2,701	15,239	5·61
1890	...	2,724	15,698	5·76

COTTON.—

COTTON.—This plant, which of late years has quite dropped out of cultivation in Queensland, has again attracted a slight amount of attention at the hands of agriculturists. Some 15 acres were sown during 1890, yielding 5,315 lb. of clean cotton, or an average of 332·19 lb. per acre, a slightly better result than has been obtained in previous years. On small areas such as were planted in 1890, and which may be called experimental patches, it may fairly be expected that a greater amount of care would be given to selecting choice land for the attempt, and more attention to the growth of the crop than would or could be given when the plant had come into general cultivation, so that too much importance must not be attached to the high average of last year.

I am, however, informed that although the cotton mill which it has been proposed to erect in the neighbourhood of Ipswich is not yet in existence, a site has been selected and the machinery already purchased, so that this should be an inducement to the farmers in West Moreton to extend the cultivation of this valuable crop. I believe the reason that so small an area was planted in 1890 is due to the fact that suitable seed was not available at the proper time. Very suitable seed has, however, since arrived and is being utilised, with such satisfactory results that a large quantity of cotton has been ginned during this year. I therefore expect that when the returns for 1891 are compiled, this branch of agriculture will show a large increase, and it is to be hoped that profitable yield will be obtained, so as to encourage farmers to cultivate cotton more extensively.

SUGAR.—The conditions obtaining with respect to this crop in 1890 were very satisfactory, a larger area having been planted with cane than in either of the two preceding years, and a much larger acreage of cane was crushed, from which a better average return of sugar was obtained than in any year since the sugar cane was cultivated in Queensland. The following statement shows a comparison of this crop for the past two years :—

O.

Year.		Area under Cane.	Area Crushed.	Total Yield.	Average Yield per Acre.
		Acres.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.
1889	...	49,741	29,438	40,169	1·36
1890	...	50,922	40,208	68,924	1·69
Increase in 1890		1,181	10,770	28,755	0·33
Decrease in 1890		...	...	...	...

Information respecting the cultivation of sugar in each district, for the years 1889 and 1890, can be obtained from the following table :—

P.

Police District.	Cultivation.			Production.					
	Area in 1889.	Area in 1890.	Increase* or Decrease† in 1890.	1889.		1890.		Increase* or Decrease† in 1890.	
				Area Crushed.	Produce.	Area Crushed.	Produce.	Area Crushed.	Produce.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.
Allora ...	...	11	* 11	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ayr ...	2,545	2,937	* 392	1,914	3,225	2,480	4,843	* 566	* 1,618
Bowen ...	...	2	* 2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brisbane ...	5	9	* 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bundaberg ...	14,339	14,875	* 536	7,384	9,499	10,448	23,181	* 3,064	* 13,682
Caboolture ...	214	166	† 48	80	60	136	130	* 56	* 70
Cairns ...	1,500	1,497	† 3	1,400	1,700	1,491	1,755	* 91	* 55
Cleveland ...	143	18	† 125	83	155	7	9	† 76	† 146
Cook ...	567	550	† 17	300	333	...	...	† 300	† 333
Douglas ...	4	5	* 1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gatton ...	31	1	† 30	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ingham ...	5,768	6,411	* 643	4,033	6,741	5,633	8,384	* 1,600	* 1,643
Inglewood ...	5	...	† 5	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ipswich ...	12	...	† 12	...	...	...	...	...	...
Logan ...	963	1,039	* 76	208	198	782	1,120	* 574	* 922
Mackay ...	15,729	15,791	* 62	10,592	13,003	12,815	19,478	* 2,223	* 6,475
Marburg ...	202	237	* 35	100	100	175	300	* 75	* 200
Maryborough ...	2,654	2,227	† 427	360	287	1,763	2,444	* 1,403	* 2,157
Mourilyan ...	4,173	4,363	* 190	2,541	4,634	3,878	6,543	* 1,337	* 1,909
Nerang ...	35	3	† 32	35	16	...	...	† 35	† 16
Normanby ...	12	12	...	...	...	11	6	* 11	* 6
Rockhampton ...	601	543	† 58	252	140	411	480	* 159	* 340
Somerset ...	2	10	* 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tiaro ...	236	213	† 23	156	78	178	251	* 22	* 173
Toowoomba ...	...	2	* 2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Townsville ...	1	...	† 1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals, 1889	49,741	...	...	29,438	40,169	...	...	...	...
Totals, 1890	...	50,922	...	...	...	40,208	68,924	...	...
Total Increase in 1890	...	...	* 1,962	...	...	...	...	* 11,181	* 29,250
Total Decrease in 1890	...	...	† 781	...	...	...	...	† 411	† 495
Net Increase in 1890	...	...	* 1,181	...	...	...	...	* 10,770	* 28,755
Net Decrease in 1890	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

From

From this it will be seen that Ingham, Bundaberg, Ayr, and Mourilyan contributed most important increases to the area of our cane fields, the increases in these four districts aggregating nearly 90 per cent. of the gross increases more than compensating by 580 acres for decreases in other districts. The Logan—at one time a most important sugar-producing district, where the cultivating of cane has been languishing of late years—shows an increase in 1890, both in area planted, area crushed, and in quality produce, and the district is still the principal one for sugar-growing in the southern district south of the Mary watershed. The comparatively inland district of Marburg also added 35 acres to the area under cane. The decreases of greatest importance are in the Maryborough and Cleveland districts—namely, 427 and 125 acres respectively. In the latter district sugar-cane has become nearly extinct. The most noticeable feature in last year's sugar crop was the satisfactory yield per acre on the area crushed, averaging rather more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons. The district of Bundaberg shows a larger output of sugar than any other district—viz.: 23,181 tons, and is also first in average yield, which equalled a little over 2 tons to the acre upon the 10,448 acres crushed. Ayr shows the next best average—namely, 4,843 tons from 2,480 acres crushed, or not quite 2 tons per acre. In Mourilyan 3,878 acres yielded 6,543 tons or nearly $1\frac{3}{4}$ tons to the acre, whilst the return realised in the police district of Mackay, approximating to $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons to the acre on the large area of 12,815 acres, must be considered most satisfactory. Increased areas were also crushed in Ingham, Maryborough, Logan, Rockhampton, Cairns, Marburg, Caboolture, Tiaro, and Normanby, and in all cases except Caboolture and Normanby with good results. With regard to the last named district, however, it may be stated that only a small proportion of the juice obtained was intended for the manufacture of sugar, a considerable portion having been immediately utilised in the distillery owned by the proprietor, thus the yield of sugar per acre to the area of cane crushed falls far below the average. Decreases in the area crushed is shown in the districts of Cook, Cleveland, and Nerang.

ARROWROOT.—Farmers appear to have taken this crop into favour again for the past two years. A larger area was planted in 1890 than in 1889, or indeed in any previous year since 1885; but the average yield was not quite so good as in 1889, though with that exception better than in any other preceding year. In 1890 276 acres were planted, yielding 712,144 lb., whilst in 1889, 210 acres returned 583,988 lb., or an average per acre of 2,580·23 lb., and 2,780·90 lb. each year respectively. The following statement gives particulars respecting the production and export of arrowroot for ten years.

The following statement shows the production and export of this commodity, with value taken at that declared at time of exportation:—

Q.

Year.	Production.	Export.	Total Value of Exports.	Price per Ton, approximate, of Exports.
	lb.	lb.	£	£
1881	311,309	257,164	3,518	31
1882	253,492	225,219	3,493	35
1883	390,964	262,683	4,966	42
1884	574,768	302,584	5,955	44
1885	551,912	405,390	6,369	35
1886	463,900	211,636	3,576	38
1887	216,184	338,313	5,453	36
1888	254,870	318,044	4,642	33
1889	583,988	280,337	4,221	34
1890	712,144	354,427	4,900	31

From this it will be seen that this commodity within the last ten years has returned to the producers a sum approximating £70,000.

TOBACCO.—The cultivation of this crop considerably increased during 1890, 540 acres having been planted as against 266 in 1889. The result, however, was most unsatisfactory, the larger area planted yielding less dried leaf than the lesser extent of land devoted to the same purpose in 1889, the average yield being 9·52 cwt. in the latter year, and 4·43 cwt. in 1890. It will be seen that Cook, Inglewood, Stanthorpe, and Warwick are the districts within which this plant is principally cultivated, and in these districts the average yield approximated 5, 10, 4, and $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. of dried leaf respectively. Reports received from the growers explain that the poor return obtained in 1890 was occasioned in Cook by fungus, the result of dry weather; in Inglewood and Stanthorpe from damage by flood, and probably the same cause operated in Warwick to reduce the production; Douglas, Esk, and Marburg districts obtained returns equalling 10, 15, and 15 cwt. per acre respectively, but only on insignificant areas. From Mourilyan, where five acres were planted, tobacco cultivation is reported a failure, from the ravages of the *Peronospora* and the cutworm.

VINES.—Viticulture was most successfully pursued during the year under consideration. The satisfactory results attending the productive vineyards—i.e., vineyards of an age to bear fruit—might be expected to lead to a further prosecution of this industry, and from the increased area returned as unproductive, it may be assumed that this is being done. The following statement contains a comparison of the results of this crop for the past five years:—

R.

Year.	Area planted with Vines.			Gallons of Wine made.	Lb. of Grapes used for the Table.
	Which was Productive.	Which was Unproductive.	Total.		
1886	1,165	352	1,517	147,410	1,467,005
1887	1,262	396	1,658	118,672	1,765,998
1888	1,432	271	1,703	144,239	1,835,831
1889	1,446	317	1,763	164,626	1,967,667
1890	1,630	351	1,981	189,274	2,404,863

A reference to Tables V., VI. and VIII. in the Appendix will show that 1890 was the most prosperous year for our vignerons during the past decenniad. The value of this crop for 1890, taken at the low estimate of 6s. per gallon for wine and $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. for the grapes, amounts to a return of nearly £72,000 divided amongst those engaged in this industry.

The Tables in the Appendix contain the full information as to the results obtained from this crop in each district, but to facilitate research on the subject I append a table giving a summary of particulars respecting the leading vine-growing districts:—

S.

Police District.	Total Area under Vines.			Quantity of Wine made.			Lb. of Grapes used for the Table.		
	In 1889.	In 1890.	Increase* or Decrease† in 1890.	In 1889.	In 1890.	Increase* or Decrease† in 1890.	In 1889.	In 1890.	Increase* or Decrease† in 1890.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Roma	449	537	*88	13,888	19,910	* 6,022	355,396	777,688	*422,292
Brisbane	316	354	*38	23,220	29,255	* 6,035	547,885	387,549	†160,336
Toowoomba	195	189	† 6	61,249	40,788	†20,461	422,964	464,904	* 41,940
Warwick	162	172	*10	14,425	17,612	* 3,187	100,042	158,662	* 58,610
Ipswich	77	86	* 9	10,200	12,030	* 1,830	54,970	92,455	* 37,485
Gatton	83	64	†19	11,897	24,505	*12,708	38,050	31,660	† 6,390
Logan	64	70	* 6	8,779	8,430	† 349	10,542	11,120	* 578
Maryborough	44	43	† 1	800	6,500	* 5,700	44,594	51,460	* 6,866
Normanby	40	47	* 7	3,416	6,160	* 2,744	5,906	12,304	* 6,398
Allora	35	34	† 1	1,369	2,315	* 946	27,378	21,620	† 5,767
Caboolture	14	25	*11	376	3,438	* 3,062	3,240	17,584	* 14,340
Highfields	30	35	* 5	3,734	4,966	* 1,232	49,262	7,230	† 42,032
Cleveland	30	28	† 2	3,556	2,710	† 846	28,530	26,230	† 2,300
Marburg	30	66	*36	2,075	6,722	* 4,674	3,617	39,500	* 35,883
Stanthorpe	20	20	...	300	530	* 230	37,620	29,934	† 7,686
Neerang	13	11	† 2	860	770	† 90	6,696	2,170	* 4,526

From this it will be seen that the principal increases in area cultivated for vines appears in Roma, Brisbane, Marburg and Gatton. The rapid strides made during the past few years in the first named of these districts justifies the assumption that the Maranoa will, at an early date, take a front rank as a grape-producing district. Good and suitable soil is undoubtedly to be found in extensive areas in that locality, and although the climate is at times very dry, it may be possible to introduce a system of irrigation so as to mitigate the effects of drought. The valuable discoveries of artesian water in districts west of Roma should induce efforts to obtain similar supplies about Roma, so that irrigation in dry seasons may be rendered practicable. In the manufacture of wine, the only substantial decrease is in Toowoomba, which shows a falling off equal to one-third of the production of 1889, that year, however, was an unusually successful one for the vignerons of that district. Brisbane district shows the only large decrease in table grapes—namely, 160,336 lb., and Highfields comes next with a substantial one of 42,032 lb.

HAY.—The area cropped for hay was considerably reduced in 1890, but as I have already pointed out, this in some measure may be due to land previously mown for hay in 1889 having been used for pasture in 1890. The following is a return relative to hay cultivation for the past two years:—

Mown for Hay.	1889.		1890.	
	Acres.	Average Yield per Acre.	Acres.	Average Yield per Acre.
		Tons.		Tons.
Wheat	7,326	1·96	1,610	1·64
Oats	12,717	2·29	8,913	1·60
Barley	544	3·11	258	1·60
Lucerne	22,848	1·71	18,424	1·61
Panicum	1,981	1·88	1,652	1·73
Other Grasses	201	1·76	249	1·44
	45,617	1·93	31,106	1·61

From this it will be observed that of the 14,000 acres (approximate) decrease in acreage of the various hay crops, the following is the proportion of decrease in each kind of crop used for this purpose:—Wheat 5,500 acres, oats 4,000, lucerne 4,500. In barley and panicum there was only a slight decrease in area, while in other grasses a small increase in area is shown. Taking the average yield into consideration, oats and barley show the greatest decline—viz., from 2·29 tons in 1889, to 1·60 in 1890; but the area sown in barley was very small. Lucerne, which after all is the principal crop used for hay in this colony, only showed a decrease in production to the extent of 0·15 per cent.

BANANAS, PINEAPPLES, AND ORANGES.—There was a considerable increase in the area placed under cultivation with the two first named kinds of fruit in 1890, compared with 1889; but the increase in orange plantation was only nominal, the increases referred to amounting to 19, 15, and 3 per cent. respectively. The increase in yield was, however, far in advance of that of the additional area planted in all cases, but especially so with regard to bananas and oranges. This will be seen from the following statement:—

T.

Year.	Bananas.		Pineapples.		Oranges.	
	Area Planted.	Total Yield.	Area Planted.	Total Yield.	Area Planted.	Total Yield.
	Acres.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.
1890	3,890	22,002,092	721	263,349	1,234	913,759
1889	3,282	4,993,517	628	227,785	1,194	560,564
Increase in 1890	608	17,008,575	93	35,564	40	353,195
Decrease in 1890 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...

The importance of bananas as one of the products of our agricultural industry justifies more than a passing notice. The following table affords a comparison of the production of this fruit between the years 1889 and 1890 in the districts in which it is principally cultivated:—

U.

District.	Area.		Production.		Increase* or Decrease† 1890.	
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	Area.	Production.
	Acres.	Acres.	Dozen.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.
Bundaberg	66	90	209,610	130,241	* 24	† 79,369
Caboolture	160	229	285,142	512,050	* 69	* 226,908
Cairns	828	1,157	1,495,768	15,654,788	* 329	* 14,159,020
Cleveland	580	562	769,056	1,513,334	† 18	* 744,278
Cook	84	79	88,365	114,642	† 5	* 26,277
Douglas	110	149	260,150	575,894	* 39	* 315,744
Logan	128	156	30,948	70,300	* 28	* 39,352
Mackay	86	60	74,943	120,094	† 14	* 45,151
Maryborough	187	170	157,598	208,375	† 17	* 50,777
Mourilyan	247	677	1,046,014	2,528,816	* 430	* 1,482,802
Somerset	532	253	253,080	37,800	† 279	† 215,280
Townsville	72	91	51,260	345,981	* 19	* 294,721

From this return it will be seen that the north produced nineteen of the twenty-two million dozens of bananas gathered last year, and of this number Cairns alone must be credited with fifteen and a-half millions. Such results would be most satisfactory to our farmers could they but find a market for their fruit; but unfortunately, although gathered in the green state, the present uncertain conveyance renders it almost impossible to place bananas in large quantities in proper condition for sale in the Sydney and Melbourne markets. Great complaints were made in Cairns of the way in which large consignments of this fruit were treated on the passage South, the loss to consignees being enormous. The local consumption is, comparatively, so limited as to be scarcely worth consideration by growers. It is a fact that bananas have become so unremunerative in the southern part of the colony that many farmers are now removing the plants from the ground to be replaced by other crops. It is much to be regretted that with such a capacity for the production of this wholesome fruit, that means have not been devised for preserving it by drying or otherwise for shipment to Europe. I know that experimental efforts are being made in this direction, and I believe with some success. A small consignment sent to England lately produced very satisfactory returns.

PINEAPPLES.—This fruit shows a fair increase in both acreage and production, the portion of increase in each case being equal. Particulars respecting the cultivation of this fruit can be ascertained from the following table:—

V.

District.	1889.		1890.		Increase* or Decrease†.	
	Acres.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.
Bowen	12	1,668	13	1,200	* 1	† 468
Brisbane	239	127,039	300	152,210	* 61	* 25,171
Bundaberg	12	2,050	7	3,710	† 5	* 1,660
Caboolture	3	384	11	1,091	* 8	* 707
Cairns	44	5,195	106	20,644	* 62	* 15,449
Cardwell	7	360	7	244	...	† 116
Charters Towers	16	1,984	13	6,229	† 3	* 4,245
Cleveland	109	13,975	63	15,659	† 46	* 1,684
Cloncurry ... ..	...	...	1	43	* 1	* 43
Cook	31	4,241	34	15,401	* 3	* 11,160
Croydon ... ..	...	...	1	126	* 1	* 126
Douglas	5	2,800	20	3,321	* 15	* 521
Etheridge ... ..	...	...	2	300	* 2	* 300
Gladstone	4	533	2	1,032	† 2	* 499
Goodna	1	Nil.	...	...	† 1	...
Herberton	2	507	5	894	* 3	* 387
Highfields	1	4,000	...	...	† 1	† 4,000
Ingham	6	1,227	3	951	† 3	† 276
Ipswich	2	1,003	4	1,000	* 2	† 3
Logan	3	100	9	1,562	* 6	* 1,462
Mackay	34	31,205	27	10,056	† 7	† 21,149
Marburg	1	...	1	130	...	* 130
Maryborough	27	11,518	32	13,069	* 5	* 1,551
Mourilyan	20	1,698	20	3,515	...	* 1,817
Nerang	2	1,132	...	...	† 2	† 1,132
Normanby ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Palmer	2	2,333	3	295	* 1	† 2,038
Rockhampton	16	4,202	9	2,578	† 7	† 1,624
St. Lawrence	1	510	...	...	† 1	† 510
Somerset	1	17	1	7	...	† 10
Thornborough	3	534	5	755	* 2	* 221
Tiara	5	764	5	1,734	...	* 970
Townsville	19	6,806	17	5,593	† 2	† 1,213
TOTAL	628	227,785	721	263,349	...	...
Total Increase* or Decrease† ...	...	...	...	...	* 93	* 35,564
Average ... ..	...	362.71	...	365.26	...	* 2.55

From

From this it will be seen that there was an increase in the area planted in 1890 of 93 acres, while the increase in production was 35,564 dozen. Of this increase the largest took place in Cairns and Brisbane districts, and although in Cook district the increased area planted was very small, yet the increased production was considerable. The most important decrease appears in the districts of Cleveland and Mackay, and in the latter district the decrease in fruit obtained was out of proportion with the decrease in the area planted.

ORANGES.—As before remarked, this crop gave a very fair return last year. The following table affords useful information as to the cultivation of this fruit for the past two years in the districts in which it is principally grown:—

W.

District.	Area.		Production.		Increase * or Decrease † in 1890.	
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	Area.	Production.
	Acres.	Acres.	Dozen.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.
Bundaberg	25	29	26,080	13,950	* 4	† 12,130
Bowen	80	64	44,440	49,665	† 16	* 5,225
Brisbane	76	71	51,652	98,388	† 5	* 46,736
Caboolture	11	25	4,800	6,812	* 14	* 2,012
Cairns	170	149	29,930	60,730	† 21	* 30,800
Cardwell	20	31	5,450	2,080	* 11	† 3,370
Cleveland	89	79	16,210	21,956	† 10	* 5,746
Cook	37	66	2,820	12,835	* 29	* 10,015
Douglas	86	107	31,225	47,926	* 21	* 16,701
Gatton	48	57	41,467	72,280	* 9	* 30,813
Gladstone	11	15	5,114	9,403	* 4	* 4,289
Gympie	14	14	5,440	4,740	...	† 700
Herberton	13	12	5,540	6,940	† 1	* 1,400
Highfields	32	25	19,560	20,075	† 7	* 515
Ipswich	17	13	10,820	6,230	† 4	† 4,590
Logan	15	17	5,860	26,275	* 2	* 20,415
Mackay	25	22	18,257	14,830	† 3	† 3,427
Maryborough	141	151	83,288	179,688	* 10	* 96,400
Mourilyan	21	11	310	310	† 10	...
Nerang	23	22	3,866	9,700	† 1	* 5,834
Rockhampton	84	64	34,550	37,719	...	* 3,169
Roma	27	40	1,242	18,249	* 13	* 17,007
Tiaro	19	17	8,567	13,200	† 2	* 4,633
Toowoomba	37	42	43,087	96,200	* 5	* 53,113
Townsville	17	29	23,345	47,658	* 12	* 24,313

It will be observed from the foregoing return that the two largest increases in area planted were in Cook and Port Douglas districts, although the greatest comparative increase was in Caboolture. In the last mentioned district the average area under oranges was more than doubled during 1890. Considerable decrease in the area under cultivation with this fruit is apparent in Bowen, Cairns, and Rockhampton districts; and in Emerald and Ingham the trees must have failed, as no reference is made to orange cultivation there in the returns of 1890. Increased production of fruit is most apparent in Maryborough, Toowoomba, and Brisbane districts.

OTHER CROPS.—The area returned under this head in the collection of agricultural statistics having attained considerable proportion, and some of the crops incidentally mentioned seeming to promise particulars of interest, I commenced this year to collect for 1890 information under this head in a classified form. As was to be expected, the first year the returns were unsatisfactory and very imperfect, it being evident that the common kinds of fruit and vegetable to a great extent were not returned under the proper head, but were included in gardens and orchards. In future years, as the collectors and farmers get educated to the new return, I anticipate a great improvement in the information afforded, and I hope greater care will be taken to furnish more exact particulars. A compilation of the results so far obtained will be found in Table IX. of the Appendix, which will afford some information upon other branches of agriculture not previously kept separate. Of fruits not before classified separately cocoanuts and mangoes may be noticed. These fruits are grown in considerable quantities in the colony, the former principally in the islands of Torres Straits, but a few are cultivated in Cairns and at Port Douglas. The latter fruit is cultivated with varying results from one end of the Colony to the other within the coast districts, is most largely produced at Mackay, and the finest flavoured fruits come from that locality. With respect to vegetables, the return alluded to amongst other particulars shows that sixteen tons of onions were produced in 1890. Although this is comparatively only a small quantity, yet it shows that this most useful esculent is now grown on a scale somewhat larger than in previous years. The returns relative to what may be termed ground fruits, such as melons, water-melons, pumpkins, &c., have evidently been very imperfectly prepared, as much larger crops than those recorded are undoubtedly grown in the Colony. Coffee cultivation, which from its capacity for extension is of peculiar interest to Northern planters, appears in only two districts—namely, Cook and Mackay. The tree grows and thrives well in most of the coast districts, more particularly in the north, and it would appear that the question of labour for picking is the chief bar to the extension of coffee in this Colony.

PASTURE (ARTIFICIALLY SOWN).—There are now 22,252 acres of land returned under this head, an increase of 6,132 acres. Allora with 10,799 acres, Warwick with 7,961, and Townsville with 1,075 are the principal districts where cultivation of this nature is undertaken.

ENSILAGE.—The favourable conditions existing for the growth of fodder during 1890 appears to have caused nearly all interest in this mode of conserving cattle food to evaporate, as the returns show only 534 tons of ensilage laid down during the past year. The returns referred to were received from the following districts :—Allora 8 tons, Banana 30 tons, Brisbane 53 tons, Diamantina 100 tons, Esk 40 tons, Gatton 30 tons, Gladstone 1 ton, Gympie 50 tons, Maryborough 62 tons, Stanthorpe 40 tons, Tiaro 10 tons, Toowoomba 50 tons, and Townsville 60 tons. The largest quantity was laid down in Diamantina, one of the most westerly districts of the colony, and the material was obtained by cutting the natural grasses. It is a matter for surprise that this practice is not more generally followed in the Western districts by which means food for stock, so lavishly supplied by nature in some seasons, could be secured for use in the trying period of drought; and the danger from the long, dry grass so easily set on fire thus prevented. It would seem that as much fodder might be stored in the shape of hay and ensilage as would in a measure prove the saving of much of the stock which in former years was sacrificed by the want of forethought on the part of owners.

WILLIAM T. BLAKENEY,
Registrar-General.

Brisbane, 1st September, 1891.

APPENDIX.

LIVE STOCK.

Table No. I.

RETURN of the NUMBER of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, and PIGS, in the several POLICE DISTRICTS of the Colony of QUEENSLAND, on the 31st December, 1890.

Police District.	Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Adavale	2,049	31,368	615,608	76
Allora	4,836	10,671	103,131	891
Aramac	2,948	26,783	789,922	100
Arrillalah	4,276	40,391	1,165,472	87
Augathella	1,969	45,293	390,872	295
Ayr	2,969	36,199	129	421
Banana	4,348	124,210	19,086	40
Barcaldine	4,233	49,388	749,174	465
Blackall	4,058	19,805	1,008,385	425
Bollon	2,040	37,558	315,671	147
Boulia	4,551	179,017	108,416	27
Bowen	8,468	182,298	9,715	812
Brisbane	13,623	32,867	3,208	9,623
Bundaberg	6,355	69,868	874	2,689
Burke	1,850	84,976	1	120
Caboolture	3,751	26,260	386	2,689
Cairns	1,912	8,957	34	1,261
Camooweal	1,390	29,522	24,000	85
Cape River	4,420	116,498	38	594
Cardwell	782	11,415	...	191
Charleville	4,544	85,384	594,148	752
Charters Towers	10,239	163,537	1,932	3,720
Clermont	9,896	161,305	664,966	916
Cleveland	678	2,623	262	543
Cloncurry	5,721	211,001	317,362	56
Condamine	3,650	28,777	31,183	387
Cook	3,728	70,298	28	1,280
Crow's Nest	1,140	13,117	850	397
Croydon	1,406	28,595	1,000	222
Cunnamulla	4,748	113,172	827,608	608
Dalby	8,595	43,639	587,990	2,066
Diamantina	3,287	154,224	7,944	17
Douglas	846	2,869	...	357
Eidsvold	923	37,827	10,868	58
Emerald	2,890	47,152	285	664
Esk	6,899	65,060	1,142	3,062
Etheridge	2,807	98,261	12	405
Eulo	1,093	78,273	58,930	47
Gatton	8,748	32,993	1,449	7,662
Gayndah	4,208	105,784	7,552	239
Gilbert	472	473	...	30
Gladstone	5,307	144,881	3,243	357
Goodna	609	2,766	20	375
Goondiwindi	2,231	20,542	222,452	186
Gympie	4,242	43,050	3,368	2,595
Herberton	3,483	47,200	293	868
Highfields	2,822	9,242	2,555	2,488
Hughenden	8,911	198,041	873,188	536
Hungerford	1,006	1,985	259,491	8
Ingham	3,018	43,727	108	451
Inglewood	1,820	14,362	62,612	352
Ipswich	4,204	15,921	355	2,788
Isisford	2,536	35,829	934,214	87
Leyburn	1,222	4,391	64,056	210
Logan	9,259	49,778	839	5,945
Mackay	8,500	73,660	42	1,392
Marburg	3,059	9,023	214	3,087
Maryborough	5,844	45,093	2,895	3,592
Mitchell	4,440	76,143	319,840	588
Moonie	791	9,919	...	28
Mourilyan	210	437	...	321
Muttaborra	4,162	72,966	1,623,745	392
Nanango	4,540	64,148	28,235	425
Nebo	3,128	64,908	1,537	82
Nerang	1,797	5,461	172	1,521
Norman	4,290	119,717	38,323	277
Normanby	6,292	27,592	9,880	5,049
Palmer	555	10,937	...	67
Ravenswood	1,330	10,121	234	657
Rockhampton	17,590	202,049	5,342	2,828
Roma	4,985	64,614	207,522	751
St. George	2,438	19,418	752,786	228
St. Lawrence	5,753	118,921	959	366
Somerset	186	17,317	260	628
Springure	7,025	117,035	267,522	363
Stanthorpe	1,917	20,083	80,824	415
Surat	2,573	43,577	191,662	210
Tambo	2,291	18,748	494,700	207
Taroom	5,278	121,486	18,995	46
Tenningering	2,547	39,217	762	325
Thargomindah	8,374	279,392	585,720	115
Thornborough	2,234	53,358	...	334
Tiaro	3,972	42,568	288	1,596
Toowoomba	10,387	30,332	781,203	3,961
Townsville	5,300	46,955	3,711	2,570
Warwick	7,917	26,049	94,137	3,521
Windorah	4,047	225,743	658,752	69
Winton	5,652	111,854	990,515	53
Totals for 1890	365,812	5,558,264	18,007,234	96,836
Totals for 1889	352,364	4,872,416	14,470,095	80,730
Increase in 1890	13,448	685,848	3,537,139	16,106
Decrease in 1890	...	...	...	...

Table No. II.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CATTLE and SHEEP in the various POLICE DISTRICTS comprised in the SOUTHERN DIVISION of the Colony for the Years 1889 and 1890, together with the INCREASE or DECREASE in the latter Year.

Police Districts.	Cattle.				Sheep.			
	1889.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.	1889.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
Adavale ...	41,225	31,368	...	9,857	545,264	615,608	70,344	...
Allora ...	11,496	10,671	...	825	95,288	103,131	7,843	...
Augathella ...	36,721	45,293	8,572	...	329,326	390,872	61,546	...
Bollon ...	29,405	37,558	8,153	...	206,787	315,671	108,884	...
Brisbane ...	31,369	32,867	1,498	...	2,938	3,208	270	...
Bundaberg ...	65,022	69,868	4,846	...	2,866	874	...	1,992
Caboolture ...	24,384	26,260	1,876	...	1,353	386	...	967
Charleville ...	61,115	83,384	24,269	...	409,985	594,148	184,163	...
Cleveland ...	2,463	2,623	160	...	341	262	...	79
Condamine ...	22,556	28,777	6,221	...	41,644	31,183	...	10,461
Crow's Nest ...	10,876	13,117	2,241	...	...	850	850	...
Cunnamulla ...	99,306	113,172	13,866	...	634,987	827,608	192,621	...
Dalby ...	32,406	43,639	11,233	...	526,547	587,990	61,443	...
Eidsvold ...	43,712	37,827	...	5,885	10,333	10,868	535	...
Esk ...	56,810	65,060	8,250	...	1,315	1,142	...	173
Eulo ...	70,154	78,273	8,119	...	18,400	58,930	40,530	...
Gatton ...	33,081	32,993	...	88	1,197	1,449	252	...
Gayndah ...	111,065	105,784	...	5,281	13,306	7,552	...	5,754
Goodna ...	2,637	2,766	129	...	100	20	...	80
Goondiwindi ...	11,608	20,542	8,934	...	194,841	222,452	27,611	...
Gympie ...	43,161	43,050	...	111	15,240	3,368	...	11,872
Highfields ...	7,493	9,242	1,749	...	2,444	2,555	111	...
Hungerford ...	2,896	1,985	...	911	232,811	259,491	26,680	...
Inglewood ...	12,551	14,362	1,811	...	51,248	62,612	11,364	...
Ipswich ...	15,135	15,921	786	...	564	355	...	209
Leyburn ...	2,895	4,391	1,496	...	40,740	64,056	23,316	...
Logan ...	46,318	49,778	3,460	...	1,277	839	...	438
Marburg ...	2,809	9,023	6,214	...	130	214	84	...
Maryborough ...	38,094	45,093	6,999	...	4,967	2,895	...	2,072
Mitchell ...	63,836	76,143	12,307	...	229,873	319,840	89,967	...
Moonie ...	15,836	9,919	...	5,917	1,780	...	...	1,780
Nanango ...	57,964	64,148	6,184	...	27,481	28,235	754	...
Nerang ...	5,173	5,461	288	...	55	172	117	...
Normanby ...	24,318	27,592	3,274	...	22,724	9,880	...	12,844
Roma ...	61,830	64,614	2,784	...	172,822	207,522	34,700	...
St. George ...	13,785	19,418	5,633	...	721,868	752,786	30,918	...
Stanthorpe ...	12,588	20,083	7,495	...	40,094	80,824	40,730	...
Surat ...	35,016	43,577	8,561	...	148,518	191,662	43,144	...
Tambo ...	16,346	18,748	2,402	...	446,925	494,700	47,775	...
Taroom ...	96,021	121,486	25,465	...	7,187	18,995	11,808	...
Tenningering ...	47,996	39,217	...	8,779	759	762	3	...
Thargomindah ...	244,648	279,392	34,744	...	411,799	585,720	173,921	...
Tiaro ...	36,497	42,568	6,071	...	150	288	138	...
Toowoomba ...	33,025	30,332	...	2,693	656,142	781,203	125,061	...
Warwick ...	20,336	26,049	5,713	...	105,649	94,137	...	11,512
	1,753,978	1,965,434	251,803	40,347	6,380,065	7,737,315	1,417,483	60,233

Net increase in Cattle in the Division, 211,456.

Net increase in Sheep in the Division, 1,357,250.

Table No. III.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CATTLE and SHEEP in the various POLICE DISTRICTS comprised in the CENTRAL DIVISION of the Colony for the Years 1889 and 1890, together with the INCREASE or DECREASE in the latter Year.

Police Districts.	Cattle.				Sheep.			
	1889.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.	1889.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
Aramac	24,001	26,783	2,782	...	766,587	789,922	23,335	...
Arrillalah	37,421	40,391	2,970	...	833,529	1,165,472	331,943	...
Banana	81,796	124,210	42,414	...	13,254	19,086	5,832	...
Barcaldine	37,657	49,388	11,731	...	250,230	749,174	498,944	...
Blackall	5,639	19,805	14,166	...	1,074,306	1,008,385	...	65,921
Boulia	177,787	179,017	1,230	...	140,993	108,416	...	32,577
Clermont	142,128	161,305	19,177	...	582,637	664,966	82,329	...
Diamantina	144,769	154,224	9,455	...	200	7,944	7,744	...
Emerald	38,825	47,152	8,327	...	226	285	59	...
Gladstone	94,899	144,881	49,982	...	4,007	3,243	...	764
Isisford	17,659	35,829	18,170	...	662,500	934,214	271,714	...
Muttaburra	65,081	72,966	7,885	...	1,196,717	1,623,745	427,028	...
Nebo	59,940	64,908	4,968	...	1,084	1,537	453	...
Rockhampton	194,483	202,049	7,566	...	3,907	5,342	1,435	...
St. Lawrence	103,187	118,921	15,734	...	1,164	959	...	205
Springsure	89,711	117,035	27,324	...	224,644	267,522	42,878	...
Windorah	171,468	225,743	54,275	...	515,893	658,752	142,859	...
Winton	100,505	111,854	11,349	...	781,163	990,515	209,352	...
	1,586,956	1,896,461	309,505	...	7,053,041	8,999,479	2,045,905	99,467
Net increase in Cattle in the Division, 309,505.				Net increase in Sheep in the Division, 1,946,438.				

Table No. IV.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CATTLE and SHEEP in the various POLICE DISTRICTS comprising the NORTHERN DIVISION of the Colony for the Years 1889 and 1890, together with the INCREASE or DECREASE in the latter Year.

Police Districts.	Cattle.				Sheep.			
	1889.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.	1889.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
Ayr	31,502	36,199	4,697	...	108	129	21	...
Bowen	189,953	182,298	...	7,655	9,904	9,715	...	189
Burke	103,266	84,976	...	18,290	15,898	1	...	15,897
Cairns	6,116	8,957	2,841	...	54	34	...	20
Camooweal... ..	29,170	29,522	352	...	13,821	24,000	10,179	...
Cape River... ..	97,443	116,498	19,055	...	104	38	...	66
Cardwell	10,631	11,415	784	...	...	...	...	...
Charters Towers	150,460	163,537	13,077	...	2,383	1,932	...	451
Cloncurry	192,577	211,001	18,424	...	260,700	317,362	56,662	...
Cook	54,640	70,298	15,658	...	55	28	...	27
Croydon	33,397	28,595	...	4,802	...	1,000	1,000	...
Douglas	1,599	2,869	1,270	...	7	...	...	7
Etheridge	88,832	98,261	9,429	...	2	12	10	...
Gilbert	88	473	385	...	...	...	...	...
Herberton	45,660	47,200	1,540	...	450	293	...	157
Hughenden... ..	180,765	198,041	17,276	...	702,540	873,188	170,648	...
Ingham	35,113	43,727	8,614	...	422	108	...	314
Mackay	63,722	73,660	9,938	...	100	42	...	58
Mourilyan	378	437	59	...	...	...	...	...
Norman	120,523	149,717	29,194	...	27,303	38,323	11,020	...
Palmer	11,676	10,937	...	739	...	...	...	...
Ravenswood	14,354	10,121	...	4,233	45	234	189	...
Somerset	1,518	17,317	15,799	...	110	260	150	...
Thornborough	42,187	53,358	11,171	...	...	...	...	...
Townsville	25,912	46,955	21,043	...	2,983	3,741	758	...
	1,531,482	1,696,369	200,606	35,719	1,036,989	1,270,440	250,637	17,186
Net increase in Cattle in the Division, 164,887.				Net increase in Sheep in the Division, 233,451.				

AGRICULTURE.

Table No. V.

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND under CULTIVATION, and the AREA under each DESCRIPTION of CROP, in the several POLICE DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland, during the Year 1890.

Police District.	Total Extent of Land under permanent Pasture with Artificially Sown Grasses.	Total Extent of Land under Cultivation.	Land in Fallow.	Total Extent of Land under Crop.	WHEAT.			OATS.			BARLEY.			MAIZE.		RYE.*		Rice (Grain).	Bere, Millet.	POTATOES.			Sugar-cane.	Arrowroot.	Tobacco.	Sorghum.	SOWN GRASSES.					VINES.			Bananas.	Pine-Apples.	Oranges.	Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
					Grain.	Hay.	Green.	Grain.	Hay.	Green Food for Cattle.	Grain.	Hay.	Green Food for Cattle.	Grain.	Green Food for Cattle.	Grain.	Green Food for Cattle.			English.	Sweet.	Cotton.					Lucerne.		Panicum.		Other Sown Grasses.		For Wine-making.	For Table Use.						Unproductive.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
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Adavale	...	1	...	1

Table No. V.—continued.

[illegible]

* Included with Bere and Millet in previous years.

Table No. VI.

RETURN showing the GROSS PRODUCE of PRINCIPAL CROPS raised in the several POLICE DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland during the Year ended 31st December, 1890.

POLICE DISTRICT.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																							
	GRAIN CROPS.						POTATOES.		Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot.	Tobacco (cured leaf).	HAY.						VINES.		Bananas.	Pine-Apples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.		Sugar-Cane Crushed.	Sugar.			Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Sown Grasses.			Wine made.	Grapes for Table use.			
																	Lucerne	Panicum.	Other Sown Grasses.					
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bshls.	Lbs.	Tons.	Tons.	Lbs.	Acres.	Tons.	Lbs.	Cwt.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Gallons.	Lbs.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.
Adavale
Allora	67,369	1,016	496	129,870	...	...	113	...	...	...	...	...	...	360	652	8	3,111	54	...	2,315	2,240	...	...	...
Aramac	140	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,620	...	...	...
Arrillalah
Augathella
Ayr	18,311	...	...	97	854	...	2,480	4,843	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Banana	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	8	...	...	...	...	500	...	...
Barcaldine	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Blackall	12	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,200	...	...	...
Bollon
Boulia	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Bowen	7,448	...	...	158	180	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	180	32,550	1,200	49,665
Brisbane	60	237	Nil	54,990	120	...	1,621	3,055	...	...	...	112	...	13	1,448	19	755	266	...	29,255	387,549	51,168	152,210	98,388
Bundaberg	...	2	400	138,327	...	...	137	2,110	...	10,448	23,181	318	4	...	182	12	549	20	Nil	...	18,546	130,241	3,710	13,950
Burke
Caboolture	21,207	...	560	281	411	...	136	130	672	Nil	...	181	4	4	4	...	3,438	17,584	512,050	1,091	6,812
Cairns	280	78,284	...	367,520	87	578	...	1,491	1,755	22,400	5	...	52	...	...	...	12	...	Nil	15,654,788	20,644	60,730
Camooweal
Cape River
Cardwell	304	...	...	...	122	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Charleville	270	...	...	3	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,312	244	2,080
Charters Towers	175	...	...	25	269	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	18	...	...	...	9,140	...	...	...
Clermont	3,653	...	...	16	53	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	7	...	...	5,500	4,635	6,229	10,062
Cleveland	2,215	...	...	21	199	...	7	9	...	...	...	41	...	100	...	...	...	2,000	...	...	3,006
Cloncurry	13	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	26	6	...	...	...	2,710	26,203	1,513,334	15,659	21,956
Condamine	387	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	...	43	...
Cook	8,711	...	62,415	14	315	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	4,170	...	...	50
Crow's Nest	9,830	...	...	279	1	...	...	...	...	359	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	114,642	15,401	12,835
Croydon	1,414	...	...	25	307	...	...	...	...	...	8	73	...	30	10	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
Cunnamulla	5,470	126	...
Dalby	284	34	92	5,859	55	...	49	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diamantina	27	134	13	181	2	116	427	21,120	...	...	...
Douglas	...	620	...	41,484	...	77,680	24	332	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	575,894	3,321	47,926
Eidsvold	805	...	...	8	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Emerald	304	...	...	20	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	102	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Esk	15	21	50	46,601	160	25,000	223	36	300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Etheridge	3,637	...	...	9	108	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,003	90	13	197	2,060	...	...	1,030
Eulo	4,740	300	...
Gatton	349	Nil	2,410	356,257	51	...	2,416	66	1,792	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,600	...	...	Nil
Gayndah	30	...	...	1,194	...	...	21	79	...	...	...	...	...	17	169	953	133	6,086	666	49	24,505	31,660	200	72,280
Gilbert	9	33	1	38	12	...	...	1,416	...	...	930
Gladstone	4,670	...	...	25	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Goodna	13,552	...	...	49	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	211	7	...	100	1,800	2,552	1,032	9,403
Goondiwindi	...	60	40	208	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	138	...	31	17	...	...	...	...	...	900
Gympie	165	...	...	37,845	...	...	473	227	...	...	...	...	9	7	46	...	37	...	...	...	13,524	...	...	1,630
Herberton	...	60	840	30,927	...	...	184	320	...	...	...	...	...	10	1,496	...	179	59	Nil	...	44,120	1,100	...	4,740
Highfields	4,199	262	509	196,369	342	...	1,861	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	188	...	370	...	...	...	4,352	5,170	894	6,910
Hughenden	646	...	...	92	15	...	...	...	...	...	538	383	...	652	...	22	4,966	7,230	...	...	20,075
Hungerford	6	9	2	3	19	...	...	1,850	...	...	...

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Table No. VI.—continued.

RETURN showing the GROSS PRODUCE of PRINCIPAL CROPS raised in the several POLICE DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland during the Year ended 31st December, 1890—continued.

POLICE DISTRICT.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																							
	GRAIN CROPS.						POTATOES.		Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot.	Tobacco (cured leaf).	HAY.						VINES.		Bananas.	Pine-Apples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.		Sugar-Cane Crushed.	Sugar.			Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Sown Grasses.			Wine made.	Grapes for Table use.			
																	Lucerne	Panicum.	Other Sown Grasses.					
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bshls.	Lbs.	Tons.	Tons.	Lbs.	Acres.	Tons.	Lbs.	Cwt.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Gallons.	Lbs.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.
Ingham	...	...	...	13,616	...	...	15	955	...	5,633	8,384	...	...	...	11	...	...	1	...	...	23,206	951	2,006	
Inglewood	...	...	25	1,693	...	...	22	...	...	...	...	...	619	...	18	...	220	...	...	...	12,480	...	...
Ipswich	240	...	...	55,893	...	...	462	279	...	...	...	...	...	...	478	...	459	50	...	12,030	92,455	...	1,000	6,230
Isisford	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Leyburn	10,456	...	30	2,565	200	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	77	...	666	20	...	274	...	...	...	Nil
Logan	80	65	...	79,835	10	...	756	358	...	782	1,120	673,840	...	...	478	23	1,127	39	25	8,430	11,120	70,300	1,562	26,275
Mackay	...	...	...	14,408	...	57,584	93	1,587	...	12,815	19,478	352	6	...	127	...	...	...	...	24,400	120,094	10,056	14,830	
Marburg	75	...	...	199,481	...	...	129	78	3,220	175	300	...	30	19	411	22	109	43	9	6,722	39,500	3,800	130	1,580
Maryborough	...	80	...	99,767	...	...	365	839	...	1,763	2,444	...	5	50	941	12	446	27	...	6,500	51,460	208,375	13,669	179,688
Mitchell	120	...	30	756	16	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	1	2	...	...	...	9,530	...	...	...
Moonie	...	...	...	180	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mourilyan	...	...	...	2,102	...	...	52	481	...	3,878	6,543	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,360	2,528,816	3,515	310
Muttaburra	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nanango	120	120	...	4,110	...	...	14	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	57	7	39	21	...	160	1,620	...	...	...
Nebo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	270	...	...	...	2,000
Nerang	...	9	85	30,016	60	...	353	21	...	...	...	14,440	...	4	196	3	86	18	...	770	2,170	4,500	...	9,700
Norman	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	...
Normanby	112	2	35	202,683	5	...	176	109	...	11	6	...	...	45	1,005	56	2,338	1,213	26	6,160	12,304	680	...	2,400
Palmer	...	...	...	2,260	...	...	5	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	216	295	4,250
Ravenswood	...	...	...	4	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rockhampton	...	160	...	7,077	...	...	86	531	...	411	480	...	3	...	376	20	80	28	...	...	15,960	16,982	2,578	37,719
Roma	739	24	...	5,257	...	...	44	8	...	...	...	...	...	106	64	2	5	...	...	19,910	777,688	...	...	18,249
St. George	...	...	...	560	...	...	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,890	...	...	2,100
St. Lawrence	...	...	150	2,130	...	...	16	166	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	72	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Somerset	...	...	...	200	...	...	110	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37,800	7	36
Springure	...	...	...	1,991	...	...	2	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	...	4	...	...	...	6,570	...	...	120
Stanthorpe	300	44	...	3,928	...	...	118	...	...	...	...	...	1,231	6	57	11	4	...	...	530	29,934	...	...	...
Surat	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,250	...	...	...
Tambo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	896	...	...	...
Taroom	...	...	...	530	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	30	...	8	12	...	220	1,000	...	...	50
Tenningering	...	...	...	508	...	...	30	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	13	3	...	...	...	208	...	1,640
Thargomindah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thornborough	...	...	...	6,164	...	...	25	111	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,376	755	600
Tiaro	112	...	2,000	30,487	40	...	482	94	...	178	251	...	...	25	733	4	331	41	21	92	10,620	12,396	1,734	13,200
Toowoomba	37,388	5,063	4,097	187,158	1,111	200	524	5	...	...	...	...	...	927	1,733	52	4,229	59	17	40,788	464,904	...	...	96,200
Townsville	30	240	...	6,377	...	...	344	122	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	12	...	...	...	10,396	345,981	5,593	47,658
Warwick	85,747	848	1,104	196,113	502	Nil	605	10	...	...	...	...	35	307	864	1	5,834	49	48	17,612	158,662	...	...	480
Windsorah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Winton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals for 1890...	207,990	8,967	12,673	2,373,803	2,672	590,989	13,112	15,698	5,315	40,208	68,924	712,144	2,392	2,646	14,219	414	29,622	2,857	358	189,274	2,404,863	22,002,092	263,349	913,759
Totals for 1889...	134,335	14,561	26,630	1,743,051	...	230,781	10,650	15,239	7	29,438	40,169	583,988	2,531	14,333	29,093	1,691	38,968	3,734	353	164,626	1,967,667	4,993,517	227,785	560,564
Increase in 1890	73,655	...	...	630,752	2,672	360,208	2,462	459	5,308	10,770	28,755	128,156	139	11,687	14,874	1,277	9,346	...	7	24,648	437,196	17,008,575	35,564	353,195
Decrease in 1890	...	5,594	13,957	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

WHEAT RETURNS—1890.

Table No. VII.

RETURN for the Year 1890, showing the EXTENT of LAND SOWN with WHEAT GRAIN in the several POLICE DISTRICTS from which Returns have been received, the AREA MOWN for HAY, REAPED for GRAIN, CUT for GREEN FEED for CATTLE, and UNPRODUCTIVE, respectively; also the AREA affected with RUST, free from RUST, and the PRODUCE.

POLICE DISTRICT.	Total Extent of Land Sown with Wheat Grain.	Total Area Mown for Hay.	Total Area Reaped for Grain.	Total Area cut for Green Food for Cattle.	Total Area Unproduc- tive.	RESULTS.											
						AFFECTED WITH RUST.					FREE FROM RUST.						
						Total Area affected with Rust.	HAY.		GRAIN.			Total Area free from Rust.	HAY.		GRAIN.		
							Acres.	Produce.	Acres.	Produce.	Average per Acre.		Acres.	Produce.	Acres.	Produce.	Average per Acre.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		Tons.		Bushels.	Bhls. lbs.	Acres.		Tons.		Bushels.	Bhls. lbs.
Allora	3,822	282	3,439	2	69	286	92	123	194	2,642	13 37	3,465	190	183	3,275	64,727	19 46
Brisbane	10	8	2	...	...	1	...	...	1	30	30 0	9	8	13	1	30	30 0
Charleville	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cleveland	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	10	...	...	...
Crow's Nest	8	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8	8	...	...	...
Cunnamulla	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	3	...	...	...
Dalby	30	15	15	...	...	7	1	1	6	80	13 20	23	14	26	9	204	22 40
Esk	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	15	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gatton	106	89	17	...	...	13	13	17	...	...	...	93	76	152	17	349	20 32
Gayndah	5	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	9	1	30	30 0
Goondiwindi	9	5	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	7	...	...	...
Gympie	13	7	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	7	10	6	165	28 30
Highfields	506	258	237	11	...	119	109	268	10	192	19 12	376	149	270	227	4,007	17 35
Hughenden	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	7	6	...	...	...
Inglewood	12	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	12	240	20 0
Leyburn	348	17	331	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	348	17	24	331	10,456	31 35
Logan	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	5	80	16 0
Marburg	10	7	3	...	...	7	7	19	...	...	...	3	...	...	3	75	25 0
Maryborough	28	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	28	50	...	...	...
Mitchell	9	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	9	120	13 20
Nanango	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	3	120	40 0
Nerang	3	3	...	...	...	3	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Normanby	29	22	5	2	...	3	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Roma	216	72	128	6	10	6	3	14	3	30	10 0	194	69	92	125	709	5 40
St. George	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	7	25	...	...	...
Springsure	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Stanthorpe	13	4	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	4	6	9	300	33 20
Taroom	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	...
Tiaro	10	3	6	...	1	4	3	25	1	15	15 0	5	...	...	5	97	19 24
Toowoomba	2,350	567	1,773	8	2	422	213	360	209	3,096	14 49	1,918	354	567	1,564	34,292	21 56
Townsville	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	30	30 0
Warwick	4,484	181	4,261	32	10	393	32	30	361	5,408	14 59	4,049	149	277	3,900	80,339	20 36
Total, 1890	12,063	1,610	10,294	63	96	1,265	479	866	786	11,508	14 38	10,639	1,131	1,780	9,508	196,482	20 40
Total, 1889	15,861	7,326	7,504	76	955	12,130	6,343	12,108	5,787	98,004	17 7	2,700	983	2,225	1,717	36,331	21 10
Increase in 1890 ... ..	...	...	2,790	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,939	148	...	7,791	160,151	...
Decrease in 1890	3,798	5,716	...	13	859	10,865	5,864	11,242	5,001	86,496	2 29	...	...	445	...	...	0 30

AVERAGE PRODUCE PER ACRE OF PRINCIPAL CROPS—RETURN FOR TEN YEARS.

Table No. VIII.

Year.	Wheat Grain.	Oats Grain.	Barley Grain.	Maize.	Rice.	Potatoes.	Cotton.	Sugar (on Acres Crushed).	Arrowroot.	Tobacco (Dried Leaf).	Wheat (Hay).	Oats (Hay).	Barley (Hay).	SOWN GRASSES.			Wine.	Grapes for Table Use.	Bananas.	Pine-Apples.	Oranges.	
														Lucerne (Hay).	Panicum (Hay).	Other Sown Grasses (Hay).						
1881...	Bushels. 3·62	Bushels. 12·73*	Bushels. 12·52	Bushels. 28·26	Lbs. ...	Tons. 2·35	Lbs. 188·57	Tons. 1·35	Lbs. 1,898·22	Cwt. 7·66	Tons. 0·67	Tons. 1·28	Tons. 2·23	Tons. ...	Tons. ...	Tons. 1·34	Gallons. 223·28	Lbs. 1,788·10	Dozens. 775·86	Dozens. 378·55	Dozens. 563·13	
1882...	12·08	16·58	17·82	26·68	...	2·90	224·80	0·98	1,217·25	10·57	1·33	1·80	4·77	...	...	1·60	216·72	1,858·01	849·16	539·03	429·53	
1883...	4·30	8·90	13·24	28·68	...	2·60	221·58	1·38	1,716·64	6·52	0·83	1·41	1·65	...	...	1·42	269·59	1,577·40	1,128·58	514·02	1,227·96	
						Solanum tuberosum	Batatas edulis.															
1884...	16·17	15·17	24·73	21·50	...	*1·81	*5·47	245·92	1·11	1,632·86	11·18	1·18	1·75	2·26	...	†	1·22	193·82	2,107·70	874·62	325·36	309·16
1885...	5·11	4·84	24·20	21·94	‡	1·70	5·79	299·36	1·45	1,672·46	11·37	0·60	1·19	0·71	†	1·56	1·10	227·86	1,929·82	1,605·59	334·97	1,040·36
1886...	3·13	10·42	24·07	22·62	1,963·16	2·41	6·68	140·00	1·69	1,819·22	7·07	1·77	2·23	3·15	1·77	2·45	1·83	249·00	2,560·22	2,124·50	402·56	601·57
1887...	22·10	24·26	27·03	22·31	2,562·95	2·37	7·11	...	1·65	1,242·44	3·31	1·83	1·81	3·80	2·19	1·71	1·26	194·23	2,712·75	3,060·87	368·07	778·61
1888...	0·89	5·65	22·94	25·38	1,972·68	1·90	5·39	...	1·07	1,710·54	11·53	1·36	1·03	0·55	1·73	1·69	1·80	240·40	2,206·53	2,847·23	323·14	695·15
1889...	15·88	19·41	21·24	17·84	926·83	2·38	5·64	7·00	1·36	2,780·90	9·52	1·96	2·29	3·11	1·71	1·88	1·76	251·34	2,487·57	1,521·49	362·71	324·74
1890...	20·02	21·82	21·68	23·88	1,969·96	2·09	5·76	332·19	1·69	2,580·23	4·43	1·64	1·60	1·60	1·61	1·73	1·44	274·31	2,547·73	5,656·06	365·26	740·49

* Not separated prior to 1884.

† Previously included in Sown Grasses.

‡ Not especially returned prior to 1886.

NOTE.—The average of rye grain was 15·81 bushels per acre.

OTHER CROPS.

Table No. IX.

SHOWING the PRODUCE obtained during the Year 1890, from "OTHER CROPS," details of which are not included in the GENERAL TABLE.

Police District.	Acres.	FRUIT.															VEGETABLES.						GRAIN AND PULSE.			MISCELLANEOUS.									
		Apples.	Citrons.	Cocoanuts.	Custard Apples.	Date Plums.	Figs.	Guavas.	Lemons.	Limes.	Loquats.	Mangosteens.	Mangoes.	Peaches.	Pea Nuts.	Pears.	Plums.	Quinces.	Water Melons.	Beans.	Cabbages.	Carrots.	Marrow.	Onions.	Pumpkins.	Turnips.	Buck Wheat.	Kaffir Corn.	Peas.	Canary Seed.	Chicory.	Coffee.	Ginger.	Prickly Country.	
		Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Cwts.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Tons.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Bushels.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Dozens.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Lb.		Lb.		Tons.	
Allora	12																						4	400											
Blackall	a 11																				333														
Bowen	10				35																200				1										
Brisbane	74							2,114				8,865													153										
Bundaberg	58												3,326							2,029	34	1,084													
Caboolture	6																			521					350										
Cairns	b 37		b	300																b					35								b		
Charleville	2																			42															
Charters Towers	c 35																			42	c	c		c											
Clermont	d 1																																		
Cleveland	11	480				162							112	300							400				4										
Cloncurry	6																				258														
Condamine	1																																		
Cook	e 64												120																				25		
Crow's Nest	8																								66										
Croydon	1																								62										
Douglas	6			400																	333	417				417									
Esk	1												5,000																						
Etheridge	f 1																		42																
Gatton	16																																		
Gladstone	2																																		
Goondiwindi	1												500																						
Gympie	18						30																												
Herberton	16														600																			30	
Highfields	13																																		
Ingham	1																																		
Inglewood	9																																		
Ipswich	19					2,000																													
Logan	g 23														500	6,400	400																		
Mackay	h 79			h	50			80	1,160	20	15	15,429	2,000																						
Marburg													120																						
Maryborough	60																																		
Mourilyan	i 8			i																															
Muttaborra	j 1																																		
Nerang	k 2												200																						
Normanby	l 2																																		
Palmer	3																																		
Ravenswood	m 11														1																				
Rockhampton	3																																		
Roma	25																																		
Somerset	n 1,320			133,333										400																					
Stanthorpe	11	3,732				220							5,940		55	1,008	160																		
Thornborough	1																																		
Toowoomba	62		4										900																						
Townsville	o 21							250	30	5		6,720	120											2	55		4	100	900						
Warwick	16																								44										
	2,088	4,212	4	134,033	85	162	2,250	330	4,204	20	5	15	36,746	12,406	6	1,155	7,858	560	23,715	54	14,039	857	1	16	1,780	742	4	16	140	900		4,505		30	

a Other vegetables—kinds or quantities not given.

b 7 acres melons and citrons, 5 acres ginger—yield not given.

c 18 acres cabbages, 1½ acres pumpkins, 5 acres ginger—yield not given.

d 1 acre mixed vegetables—no yield given.

e 40 acres vegetables—no yield given.

f £100 worth cabbages, turnips, and other garden produce—no particulars given.

g 8 acres chicory—unproductive.

h 2 acres mixed vegetables, 10 acres cocoanuts—no yield given.

i 8 acres mixed vegetables—no yield given; planted with 8 acres cocoanuts—no yield yet.

j ¼ acre mixed vegetables.

k 2 acres mixed vegetables.

l 2 acres mixed vegetables.

m 11 acres mixed vegetables.

n 30 tons yams, 4 tons taro.

o 1 acre mangoes, mandarines, and lemons—no yield given.

Price 10d.]

By Authority: JAMES C. BEAL, Government Printer, William street, Brisbane.